

# Radio Communication

May 1990



The first 35 years  
of GB2SM:  
Amateur Radio at  
the Science Museum

**G4WIM**



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TM-231E	(2m)	£289
TM-431E	(70cm)	£318
TM-531E	(23cm)	£385
TM-701E	(2/70)	£469

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**News and Editorial**

Marcia Brimson  
Peter Chadwick, G3RZP  
Mike Dennison, G3XDV  
David Evans, G3OUF  
Dave Simmonds, G3JKB

**Production**

Derek Cole  
Sue Clark

# Radio Communication

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THE NATIONAL SOCIETY WHICH REPRESENTS UK RADIO AMATEURS

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Member society of the International Amateur Radio Union

PATRON: HRH PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, KG

Membership is open to all those with an active interest in radio experimentation and communication as a hobby. Applications for membership should be made to the Membership Services Department from which full details of Society services may also be obtained

Headquarters and registered office:  
Lambda House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3JE  
Telex 9312 130923 (RSGB)  
Electronic mail via Dialcom/Telecom Gold 87.CQ0083  
Telephone: 0707 59015. Fax: 0707 45105

Secretary and Chief Executive: David Evans, MSAE, CPL, G3OUF  
General Manager: David Simmonds, G3JKB

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EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT: John Case, GW4HWR

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT:

Julian Gannaway, G3YGF

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Intruder Watch (IARUMS): Stan Cook, G5XB

Correspondence to honorary officers should be addressed directly to them (OTHR), not to RSGB HQ

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Once-off joining fee: £1.50

Corporate members: UK and overseas (*Radio Communication* by accelerated surface post): £25.00

UK associate member under 18: £8.50. Family member: £9.95

UK students over 18 and under 25: £12.75 (Applications should give applicant's age at last renewal date and include evidence of student status)

Affiliated club or society/registered group (UK): £25.00 (including *Radio Communication*): £14.95 (excluding *Radio Communication*) (Subscriptions include VAT where applicable)

Membership application forms available from RSGB HQ

# COUNCIL BRIEF

13 January 1990

• John Case, GW4HWR, was elected EVP for 1990.

• The Secretary discussed with Council the importance of future planning for the World Administrative Radio Conference in 1992 and the significance of the April 1990 IARU Conference as a prelude to WARC 1992.

The Society's future frequency policy plan was discussed in connection with the forthcoming IARU Conference and WARC 1992. General future strategy, committee reporting structures and the possible streamlining of committee work was also discussed.

The composition of the Society's delegation to the forthcoming IARU Conference in Spain was agreed by Council.

In connection with WARC 1992, the Secretary would write to the DTI offering support from the RSGB at the 1992 Conference.

• It was agreed that G3HCT would remain the Chairman of the Licensing Advisory Committee for a three-year period.

• The large amount of volunteer support generated by the "help" postcards was discussed. Council wished to thank those members who had volunteered to assist the Society.

• The Honorary Treasurer discussed the accounts to the end of October 1989 which had been generated in conjunction with the new external accountants.

The Honorary Treasurer informed Council of the situation regarding VAT, and a statement for publication in the February edition of *RadCom* was agreed.

The future auditing requirements of the Society were discussed and the Honorary Treasurer and Secretary were instructed to seek a meeting with Moores & Rowland.

The Secretary described in some detail the progress which was being made with regard to the new chart of accounts and the installation of the new integrated accounting software. This additional work, together with the training which was required, was throwing a temporary additional load on senior staff.

Increasing costs in the production of *RadCom*, due mainly to the cost of freelance work, was discussed. Council agreed that these costs must be reduced as soon as possible.

• The abuse of the GB3NA repeater was discussed further. Reports of

the continued use of bad language by one or two individuals was viewed with deep concern by Council. Proper evidence of such abuse was now necessary.

A small number of messages on the packet network were considered by Council to be quite inappropriate to the airwaves. The Packet Working Group and Licensing Advisory Committee were asked to work on revisions to the bulletin guidelines. The need to strengthen the ARoS and appoint a new coordinator was emphasised.

• Alan Dearlove, G1WZZ, the Chairman of the EMC Committee, attended the meeting to brief Council on the RSGB response to the recent DTI consultative document on EMC. Details of the DTI consultative document and its possible implications had been sent to all *RadCom* advertisers.

• Work on the Novice Licence was continuing towards a conclusion. Project YEAR work continued on many fronts.

• Other matters discussed included: RAYNET, RSGB, attendance at external events in the UK, various awards and trophies, the Membership Liaison Committee, the importance of local salt-help and the harmonisation of the Licence Syllabus in Europe.

## QLS Bureau New address

The RSGB QSL Bureau has moved to our Headquarters at Potters Bar. Please do not send cards to G3DRN. The new address is:- PO Box 1773, POTTERS BAR, Herts, EN6 3EP, England.

See page 26 for the full story.

## VHF Convention

There is still some confusion over the date of the Society's popular annual event, the VHF Convention. Unlike previous years, it is being held on a Saturday. The date is 12 May and full details can be found on page 23.

## Committee Vacancy

The Repeater Management Group is looking for a Minutes Secretary with immediate effect. Applicants need not be repeater experts but must have a good command of English and be able to attend almost all of the 6 or 7 meetings held by the RMG each year. Use of a word processor is highly desirable.

Further information is available by writing to the Chairman, Geoff Dover, G4AFJ, who is OTHR.

(More Society news on p11)

# IARU Region 1 Conference opened by ITU Secretary General

"The international telecommunications Union has more than an official relationship with the International Amateur radio Union. Amateur Radio and radio amateurs are important genes of telecommunications, shaping much of its development and character the world over. Moreover, the extraordinary fraternal spirit and universality of amateur radio is felt in the negotiations at many international conferences as a force for mutual understanding and co-operation. Friendships and global insights of amateurs have long bridged national and regional boundaries".

These are the opening words of Dr Pekka Tarjanne, the new Secretary General of the International Telecommunications Union when, last month, he opened the IARU Region 1 Conference in Spain. The fact that the ITU Secretary General attended this important conference on amateur radio is significant. Dr Tarjanne went on to say that in the context of radio the word "amateur" meant something different, "more serious than the usual dictionary definition". He said that "the amateur radio community is known as highly disciplined, self regulating in many countries and immensely knowledgeable" and that "the training and experience of young amateurs has seeded important pioneering in telecommunications and information technology".

Dr Tarjanne went on to give the delegates from 41 national radio societies in Region 1 some insight into the future. He said that the ITU was "preoccupied with the changing environment in telecommunications" citing as "the primary force of change the increasing globalisation of economic activity with its dependence on information, the entry of many new telecommunications institutions and services with close links to international commerce, and the development of many new services and means of delivery".

All of these changes within the telecommunications environment will have a significant impact on the ITU. A problem which Dr Tarjanne said would require the ITU to study its own organisation, management and working methods.

## WARC 92

Obviously, delegates to the IARU Conference were keen to hear what the Secretary General had to say about the next major World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) which will take place in 1992. He said that "possible extensions to the HF frequency spectrum allocated to broadcasting will be considered" - all HF operators take note - also that "reallocation in the frequency range 1 to 3 GHz will be considered to provide necessary spectrum for mobile-satellite and other mobile services, including future public land mobile telecommunications and possibly satellite sound broadcasting". He added that "future use by the fixed satellite service of bands near 18 to 20GHz and 27 to 30GHz will be considered". "A worldwide band for satellite high-definition TV is expected as well as the associated HDTV feeder link band". Dr Tarjanne said that "some 30 other questions are in a draft agenda" for the conference.

The ITU Secretary General noted that "things went fairly well for amateur radio at the last major ITU frequency allocation conference". "The allocation of new amateur bands was seen to be important and was agreed in an environment of intense competition with other services". He said that "there will be competition again in 1992" and in 1993 when there will be another World Conference to deal again with HF broadcasting matters. He said quite clearly that "these WARCs, especially WARC 92, once more challenged amateur radio on the international conference front".



Dr Pekka Tarjanne, Secretary General of the International Telecommunications Union, who opened the Torremolinos Conference.

## Project YEAR philosophy confirmed

The Secretary General's speech at Torremolinos was most informative. He is clearly in tune with all facets of amateur radio and recognises one of its most fundamental benefits, that of providing a breeding ground for future generations of people who are conversant with telecommunications and information technology. In that he has confirmed the RSGB's Project YEAR initiative. His insight into WARC 92 has helped the IARU and those who are preparing for 1992 within national societies all over the world.

We can be proud that the new Secretary General has taken an early opportunity to become involved with a major amateur radio conference, but the amateur movement cannot rest on its laurels. If radio amateurs all over the world wish to maintain the privileges of access to the frequency spectrum, which they are accustomed to, they must be prepared to support the work of the national societies, and through them the IARU.

## Salute

We salute that work of the ITU and its Secretaries General who have all recognised the value of amateur radio for the important role that it has in the world of telecommunications.

**David A Evans, G3OUF**

*There will be a full report next month on the decisions taken at the IARU Region 1 Conference.*

# NEWS & REPORTS

## First success for North Pole 90 team

Explorers Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Dr Mike Stroud have achieved their first objective in their attempt to reach the North Pole unsupported. On 2 April they had reached 85° 9.4' North and 98° 04' East. This breaks the record of 84.48° North for an unsupported Pole attempt set up by Renulph and Mike in 1986. Interestingly, because they have walked from Siberia they had to travel 229 miles to get this far North; when they set the record they started from Canada and walked only (I) 107 miles.

They have had to put up with temperatures of minus 40° Celsius,

winds of up to 50 knots and zero visibility. They have had to cross a lot of open water where they use their sledges as canoes. For a long time the currents were working against them, but during late March these changed and provided assistance. By the end of March, Mike and Ranulph were walking between 11 and 15 miles a day. At that rate they will get to the Pole within their scheduled 45 days.

Morag Howell, GM0MUV, moved to the forward base camp with two Russians - Dimitry Kontin and Sergel Malachev and commenced amateur radio operation using the



Dr Mike Stroud demonstrating the use of a sledge as a canoe on the Thames at Westminster Pier.

callsign UA0/GB4ICE. The Sredny Island base camp, UA0/GB4MSS has made over 1000 contacts despite considerable magnetic disturbance to the ionosphere. 50MHz had not yielded any two way contacts at the time of writing although an OH station has been heard. Radio and visual auroras are

experienced almost daily.

The Multiple Sclerosis Society has been delighted with the response to the Research Chair Appeal. Don't forget that sponsorship forms are available from RSGB HQ. Please send an SAE marking your envelope "MS Research Chair Appeal".

## Radiocommunications Agency

The Radiocommunications Division of the Department of Trade and Industry was launched as an Executive Agency by Secretary of State Nicholas Ridley on 2 April 1990.

The new Agency will be responsible for radio spectrum management and frequency allocation, enforcement of the Wireless Telegraphy legislation through the Radio Investigation Service (RIS), International negotiation on radio matters and licensing of radio equipment. In short, all of the things done by the old RD.

Council Member, Hillary Claytomsith, G4JKS, represented the Society at the official launch of the RA which was attended by all sections of the radio industry.

In his address, Mr. Ridley noted that this was the seventh DTI agency to be launched and now half of the DTI is working within agencies. This would prove beneficial in terms of effectiveness and quality of service. He hoped that working as an agency, licences would be delivered more quickly and stressed that the Agency would be working towards increased efficiency. He noted that demands had risen and that the Agency would have to face pressures on the use of the spectrum with cellular and cordless radio, as well as a new TV channel. Mr. Ridley mentioned trunked private radio services in the lower sub bands of Band III and



Secretary of State Nicholas Ridley.

announced that five operators had been granted licences in London; one dealing with hand portables only.

Mr. John Michell, the Chief Executive of the Radio Communications Agency, thanked Mr. Ridley for launching the Agency. He specifically mentioned the people working within the Radio Investigation Service and the fact that they were not present. He called on Mr. Ridley to sign a special message to all officers in the out-stations which was instantly faxed, thus including them in the proceedings. Mr. Michell said he was hoping to avoid an increase in licence fees during the period 1990/1991 - this went down very well with those present.

After the cutting of the celebratory cake, the assembled company adjourned to a reception and pleasant conversation with other users of the radio spectrum.

### The Main Aims of the Agency

1) To seek to ensure that the radio frequency spectrum, the geostationary satellite orbits and other earth orbits, are used in ways which maximise their contribution to national social and economic welfare, while having regard to safety-of-life factors.

2) To seek to ensure that the maximum amount of spectrum is available for commercial use.

3) To provide an expert service to Government as a whole in the field of radio regulation.

### The Objectives of the Agency

1) To ensure, through proper consultation, that its activities as far as possible, meet the needs of existing and new users in the UK.

2) To allocate and assign frequencies in ways which meet the needs of current and future users, service providers and manufacturers.

3) To ensure that authorised spectrum use is, as far as possible, free of interference and in particular of interference which could endanger life.

4) To plan and ensure future spectrum availability and efficient use of the spectrum.

5) To promote greater economic efficiency and quality of service in its operations.

6) To pursue a policy of deregulation where possible and appropriate, and in a way which minimises burdens on business, especially small business.

7) To provide an objective and independent service to other parts of Government of frequency allocation and assignment.

8) To represent the United Kingdom's interests in its international negotiations on radio matters which may from time to time be specified by DTI Ministers or the Deputy Secretary responsible for telecommunications and radiocommunications.

9) To contribute to the efficient implementation of the EMC Directive.

## 1990 Call Book

### Details withheld

Those who have already purchased the 1990 edition of the RSGB Call Book - packed with information and only £8.46 by post to members - will have noticed that in most cases the complete withholding of information on location is now a thing of the past.

In all cases where a licensed amateur has provided a post code to the RALU - some have not - the first two letters of the post code have been supplied by the RALU to the Society. This enables us to give the post town associated with the callsign which establishes the approximate location of the station. In our view this certainly enhances the usefulness of the Call Book.

### Regional prefixes

In order to make it easier to find GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU and GW callsigns amongst the Gs, this year's Call Book has a space inserted between the prefix and suffix. It is hoped that this has none of the pitfalls of some of the alternative suggestions.  
*(More News & Reports on p10)*

Closing Date  
31 July 1990

# YOUNG AMATEUR OF THE YEAR 1990

**Every RSGB member and affiliated club is urged to sponsor a person under 18 for the 1990 Young Amateur of the Year**

The Radiocommunications Agency of the Department of Trade & Industry has announced its sponsorship of the Young Amateur of the Year Award for 1990's outstanding achievement by a young amateur radio enthusiast.

Anyone who is under 18 and:

- is keen on DIY radio construction; or
- is interested in using radio and gaining operating skills; or
- is using radio for community service, such as helping the disabled or in emergency communication networks; or
- is good at encouraging interest in amateur radio; or

• is involved in amateur radio in any way such as in a school scientific project, is eligible for the 1990 Award and its £250 cash prize.

The prize, for the most outstanding achievement between 1 April 1989 and 31 July 1990, will be awarded by the DTI and presented at the Radio Society of Great Britain's 1990 HF Convention on 30 September 1990.

The closing date for applications is 31 July 1990. Entrants do not need to be a radio licence holder to enter and the competition is open to anyone in the UK, the Channel Islands, or the Isle of Man, who is under 18 on 31 July 1990.

Through its sponsorship of the Award, the DTI is encouraging young people to become involved in amateur radio which gives invaluable 'hands-on' experience for anyone considering a career in radio electronics. It complements part of the RSGB's education and training initiative 'Project YEAR' which aims to introduce more people into the hobby, and the Agency's Enterprise and Education initiative which encourages young people to gain the skills, aptitudes and abilities they will need for the world of work.

## ENTRY FORM IS IN THIS ISSUE!

Entry forms for the award (enclosed as a loose leaf insert with this issue) must be sent to: The Secretary (YAOTY), Radio Society of Great Britain, Lambda House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, EN6 3JE, NO LATER THAN 31 July 1990.

## Ted Walker, G0KAQ, 1989 Young Amateur Of The Year

Ted Walker, G0KAQ, has just turned 17 and is enjoying his year as YAOTY. It started last September when he won the DTI's award of £250 (some of which has already gone towards enhancing his station) and a number of other prizes, including an RC14 receiver from the RSGB currently on loan to a 13 year old who is studying for the RAE.

### MORE PRIZES

The DTI took Ted on a guided tour of their Monitoring Station at Baldock, which he found both enlightening and enjoyable. He confesses to being very envious of Baldock's Racal gear and aerial farm. UK manufacturers Navico presented him with a VHF rig and showed him round their factory which produces amateur radio and marine equipment. Ted is now operational on packet radio, thanks to a TNC awarded him by Siskin Electronics.



Ted Walker, G0KAQ, receiving the Award from Mike Coolican of the DTI last year

### AMBASSADOR

As YAOTY, Ted has been a wonderful ambassador for amateur radio and has passed on his knowledge and enthusiasm to other youngsters. He has given a talk to a Rotary Club, and at a local school

his demonstration of HF operation fascinated a group of 11-year olds.

### SCHOOLS NET

Ted attends Warwick School whose radio club holds the callsign G4WKS. He has started a schools

net (1340 local time every Tuesday during term time, 7050kHz SSB) and is anxious to involve more schools. The club has several studying for the RAE and they are ready and eager to train youngsters for the Novice Licence.

# Banding together — Scouts

Once again the scouting movement and amateur radio



During the year, youngsters all over the world have an opportunity to experience amateur radio, many for the first time, and of realising just how close it brings them to those with like interests, namely guiding and scouting. Thinking Day on the Air and Jamboree on the Air are two events which highlight this radio fellowship. It should be particularly encouraging for us as radio amateurs when we see such overwhelming enthusiasm shown by guides and scouts on these two weekends.

## JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

High winds again swept parts of the United Kingdom during Jamboree on the Air, October 1989. Radio conditions were also variable, with an aurora creating havoc on 144MHz. The HF bands suffered from fade out early on, but improved later in the weekend. Until last year, Scouts could send greetings messages over the air to stations in only four countries. Several months before JOTA, the RSGB made an approach to the DTI, who wrote to all 189 radio administrations in the world. This requested bilateral greeting message facilities for the JOTA weekend. The replies were still flooding in as JOTA commenced. By the start of the event some 32 countries had agreed but the final total could well be over 100! Hundreds of scout troops around the UK took advantage of this privilege, operating from a variety of venues - in tents, village halls,

schools and scout headquarters. One group from Harrogate - Spectra VSO and 20th Harrogate Scouts embarked on their annual quest to place a radio station on Great Whernside. All went well until on reaching the summit they discovered that they had no guy ropes. This sort of occurrence only added to the fun, although at the time it did not seem that way.

Some chance encounters were made on the air-waves, which turned an already fascinating weekend into an even more memorable one for some groups. The 1st Williton Scouts in West Somerset enjoyed impromptu conversations with a 300-strong scout camp in the Natal region of South Africa.

The 1st Scarborough Scout Troop, with the help of Scarborough ARC, had an unexpected contact with VR6TC, Tom Christian, a descendant of Fletcher Christian of "Mutiny on the Bounty" fame. Their venture scout leader spoke to Tom Christian, telling him about scouting activities in Scarborough and the First Scarborough venture unit.

The District Commissioner of the Fakenham Scouts is serving with the RAF in the Falkland Islands and the scouts were hoping to contact him over JOTA weekend.

Other troops had visits from dignitaries. The 1st Godmanchester Scouts were joined by the Mayoress who enjoyed passing a message over the air.

The 25th Chester Scouts and Guides Troop entertained the Mayor and Mayoress of Chester and told them all about JOTA.

As a result of these weekends many scouts have embarked on working for their communications badge. Last year ten Northampton Scouts were given their amateur radio badges at a special party which celebrated eight years of the Billing Lane Scout station. More than 200 boys have completed the course since the amateur radio station opened in 1981. To gain the badge, the scouts have to keep a log of amateur radio contacts, learn about how radio actually works and know about licensing conditions.

Each JOTA station organiser who put scouts in touch with others in the movement in far-flung parts of the world deserves praise. Not only will they have sown the seeds of interest in electronics and amateur radio, but also made the youngsters aware that scouts in Vancouver or Moscow are pretty much the same as those in Paisley or Wrexham.



# and Guides get on air

come together — Hilary Clayton-Smith, G4JKS, reports.

## THINKING DAY ON THE AIR

Since the inception of Thinking Day on the Air the number of guide units taking part and showing a real interest in amateur radio has increased. This February there were 150 stations on the air. In the past the North West has fielded the largest number of interested groups - this is levelling out now. This year there was an increase in activity in Scotland. Interest in radio is kept alive during the year as guides and brownies can work towards their Radio Communication Interest Badge (details in May 1989 *RadCom* pp 11 & 12).

Guides take a great deal of interest in construction, with groups reporting that the girls had made Morse oscillators and receivers during the weekend. Seventy-four Harpenden guides at GB0HGG each built an AM receiver and were fascinated when they found they could tune into the local radio stations.

Conditions on HF over the weekend were poor, with much noise reported on the LF bands. They also had a French contest to contend with. In spite of this GB0HDG in Horsham managed to contact VK4MBJ and now the girls are swapping badges, photographs and letters.

One blind member of the Congleton Brownies had a great time tuning in stations and working others in a very clear and confident voice.

Guides in Norfolk working at GB2NGR sent messages on packet radio and were pleased to link up with SV1EM. Georgina Stanley, G7GMS, showed initiative by making all the arrangements for the station licence, camping facilities,

and food and even got seven girls interested in working towards their Communications Badge. Georgina, who was 14 in December, is busy trying to encourage her friends in the Nottingham area to take up amateur radio.

The guides on the Isle of Man were pleased to have a visit from the Island's Commissioner who sent a message to a guide station in Kidderminster.

The station of GB2SWG in Sandridge, near St Albans, was organised by G0EVD and run by him, with help from the members of the Verulam ARC.

During the weekend 69 girl guides were put on the air for which they received, as a memento, a special certificate as well as a copy of the RSGB's *DIY Radio*.



## Novice Licence News

As we went to press the Radiocommunications Agency announced more details of their plans for a UK Novice Licence and issued the draft text of the Novice Licence itself. Key points are:-

- The RA plan to introduce the Novice Licence within 12 months; more work needs to be done on the licence, the training course and multi-choice exam.

- Ministers recognise the value of amateur radio as a training ground for careers in electronics and radio engineering.
- There will be two Novice Licences - Class B which permits operation on segments of 50 MHz and 430 MHz bands plus 1.3 GHz and 10 GHz. (The latter will permit classroom experiments). On passing a 5wpm Morse test, Novices will be permitted limited operation on 1.8 MHz, 3.5 MHz, 10 MHz, 21 MHz and 28 MHz.
- Maximum power output will be 3W (or 5W dc input).
- Novices will not be permitted /MM, be able to work with user services or share the CEPT operating privilege.

- The entry qualifications are attendance and completion of a training course which the RSGB intends to provide, followed by a multi-choice examination. For HF operation a 5wpm Morse test must be passed.

- There will be no minimum age; the tests will determine who may hold a licence.

- Holders of Class B licences for over 12 months will be granted the HF novice facilities on completion of a 5wpm Morse test.

We expect to bring you more details, including a list of bands and modes which have been agreed, in next month's magazine.

## Awards news

Ian Cornes, G4OUT, the RSGB's VHF/UHF Awards Manager tells us that two new categories of award have been introduced to the RSGB's VHF/UHF award scheme. The award stickers are worded "Achieved during the first year of being licensed" and "Achieved while under 18 years of age". The rules for these awards are the same as for the other RSGB VHF/UHF awards except that the OSOs must show that the contacts were made in the appropriate time scale. Applicants must also include information on date of birth or date first licensed as appropriate.

In December 1989, a 1296MHz Standard Transmitting award was issued to Howard Steddon, G6STI, which, together with Howard's 144MHz Senior and 432MHz Senior, qualified him for the RSGB Supreme award.



Douglas Byrne, G3KPO (RSGB RLO for the Isle of Wight) pictured (right) at the 30th Tropical Hambooree in Miami which was attended by over 8000 people. Also in the photo are (l to r) Larry Price W4RA (ARRL President), George Wilson W4OYI (ARRL Vice-President), Evelyn Gauzens W4WYR (Chairman Tropical Hambooree), Frank Butler W4RH (Director ARRL SE Division).

Nail Carr, G0JHC, gained the first 50MHz 100 squares award, the first 50MHz 50 countries DX award, and the first 50MHz 50 countries 2 way award.

Ela Martyr, G6HKM, has recently qualified for a formidable array of awards - 50MHz 20 countries two way, 50MHz 30 countries, 50MHz 75 squares, 50MHz DX 25 countries, 144MHz 175 squares / 20 countries, 432MHz 90 squares / 15 countries and 1296MHz 30 squares.

Ruth Davies, GW1EHI, was issued with the 50MHz 10 countries award and the 50MHz 25 square award while xym Jeff Davies, GW0ETM, claimed certificates for 50MHz 20 countries two way and 50MHz 50 squares.

Still with the ladies, Sue Squibb, G1TZU, received the 50MHz 10 countries and 50MHz 25 squares awards. Batty Jackson, G1YNR, claimed 50MHz 75 squares nr 2.

During February, the first application was received from an overseas amateur, applying under the new award rule. Howard A Sine, WB4WXE, was awarded 50MHz 10 countries and the 50MHz 25 squares certificates. Ian was pleasantly surprised to receive Howard's application as he used to contact him regularly 8 years ago when Howard was in Alaska.

Norman Vincent, G3NVO, entered the award register with a notable 200 squares and 30 countries confirmed on 144MHz.

The Scottish flag was kept flying by Philip Hughes, GM1ZCD, who obtained the 50MHz 10 countries, 50MHz 25 squares award and 50MHz 50 squares awards.

In March, John Arnold, G4NPH received the 432MHz 60 squares / 15 countries award.

## GC45LD

The Jersey Amateur Radio Society has been granted permission by the DTI to use the very special callsign GC45LD to commemorate the 45th Anniversary of the liberation of the Channel Islands. The station will be operational from 5 to 18 May.

## Loony eclipse

How many readers spotted that the April RadCom story about moonbounce tests was a spoof? Peter Blair, G3LTF, is thanked for agreeing to lend his name to the piece to add authenticity.

## Historic radios in use

The Norsk Radiohistorisk Foranring will be using the special call LA1D on 5 May from the War Museum in the Akerhus Fortress, Oslo.

Operation will be on 3510kHz from 0700 to 0900 UTC and on 14055kHz from 1000 to 1200 UTC. Historic equipment will be used including OLGA, the Norwegian "suit-casa" radio and a B Mk II. The Museum has a fine collection of Allied and German radio gear as well as radar, artillery and other more usual items.

The Freedom Museum in Copenhagen will be using its call OZ5MAY from 5 May (Freedom Day) to 7 May. This well known station has made over 3500 OSOs using a B Mk II with a Zepp antenna in the trees of Churchill Park. Operation is from 0900 to 1600 UTC mainly on 40m and 20m.

RAF Duxford Radio Society will be operating B Mk II and other sets on 5 and 7 May using the special callsign GB2IWM. The schedule is 0900 to 1000 UTC on 40m, 1000 to 1200 UTC on 20m, 1200 to 1500 UTC on 40m then on 20m until the station closes. Calling frequencies (crystal controlled of course) are 7027, 7030 and 14065kHz, and working frequencies are 7025, 7024, 7020, 14054 and 14050kHz. Members of the B2UG, the B Mk II User Group will be taking part in a first meeting, commemorating Special Forces world-wide.

## BATC Convention

The British Amateur Television Club holds its annual convention on

Sunday 6 May at Herlextion Manor, near Grantham, Lincs. There will be a trade exhibition and a lecture stream.

## AMSAT-UK Colloquium

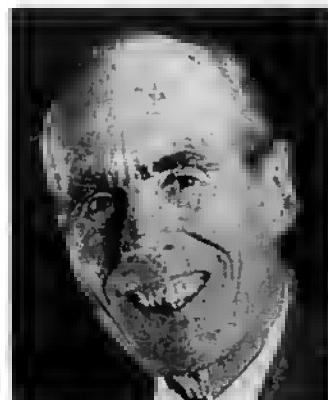
This popular event will take place at the University of Surrey from 26 to 29 July. All enquiries to Ron Broadbent, G3AAJ, OTHR.

## 3rd RSGB Data Convention

The 1989 event was held alongside the AMSAT-UK Satellite Colloquium. It is not possible to combine the two events this year and alternative plans are being made. All enquiries to Ian Suer, GM4AUP, OTHR.

## RAIBC picnic

The Annual Picnic of the Radio Amateur Invalid and Blind Club will be held at its usual venue at Romsey on Sunday 8 July. Further details can be obtained from John Compton, G4COM, Aysgarth, Beech Corner, Durley, Southampton, SO3 2AR. Telephone 0703 693017.



Gp Capt Leonard Cheshire VC, Patron of the RAIBC, is expected to attend the picnic at Romsey.

## Banned from London Repeaters

The following letter from the Head of Branch (Licensing) at the DTI has been received by the Society. It was addressed to the President, Frank Hall, GM8BZX.

I am writing to let you know that I have had to write to three Amateur Radio Licensees to advise them that, after careful consideration, the Secretary of State has decided to vary their licences to preclude use of the London repeaters. A fourth person whose licence has lapsed has been advised that it will not be renewed without a clause excluding use of the London repeaters.

The reasons for this decision are that those concerned behaved irresponsibly in the use of radio by sending messages whilst pursuing a personal dispute which included offensive material, which was likely to be heard by other radio users, and by making use of the London repeaters for periods of time so prolonged as to disregard the rights of other users of amateur radio.

The Secretary of State regards these matters as serious. I have to say that they tend to call into question the fitness of some

licensees to hold an Amateur Radio Licence. The Secretary of State has no desire to withdraw or restrict the right to use amateur radio for any licensee, but will take action where the abuse of radio and interference with the rights of other radio users make it necessary. I am writing to you, in your capacity as President, to make it clear that if any licensee does not use amateur radio responsibly in future, their licence may be revoked, or varied to further incorporate restrictions on use.

I do hope that you will give this letter, and the very clear warning it contains, the very widest possible circulation among radio amateurs. I do not want any radio amateur licensee to be under the slightest illusion about our readiness to act vigorously and forcefully against the irresponsible minority who spoil the enjoyment of other licensees.

The Department's efforts must be complimented however by those of the amateur community itself. It is important that the amateur world accepts its share of responsibility for maintaining high operating standards. I am sure that the vast majority of amateurs view the activities of an irresponsible minority with deep distaste. I took to the RSGB to do all it can to encourage high operating

standards and to discourage the type of behaviour that is bringing the hobby into disrepute. Self discipline has traditionally been one of amateur radio's outstanding features and we should like to see this approach maintained.

As the licensees of these repeaters I know you are only too well aware of the problem which is receiving the Society's attention.

Yours sincerely  
M V Cootican  
6 March 1990

repeater jammers if, for instance, you deliberately jam someone who is in breach of the bandplans, or use the packet mailbox network to abuse other amateurs. It is the direct responsibility of all radio amateurs to operate to the highest standard and to seek to improve that standard.

## GB3BM

Owing to illegal operating practices by a tiny but vociferous number of users, the central Birmingham VHF repeater was turned off for a few weeks by the local repeater group. This was in order to provide for a cooling off period during which the group discussed with the RSGB's Repeater Management Group ways of ensuring that the illegal operators are brought to book.

## G7GBH pirate

RSGB Member G7GBH discovered recently that his callsign is being pirated on VHF in the West London and Herts area. If anyone has any information about this station, would they drop a line to the Amateur Radio Observation Service at RSGB HQ.

## Raynet Elections

### Zones 5, 8 and 11

The following nominations have been received in response to the notice which appeared in the February issue of *Radio Communication*.

- Zone 5 (Greater London) - one valid nomination received in favour of Ian Jackson, G8RWH.
- Zone 8 (Wales) - one valid nomination received in favour of David Davies, GW0KWKY.
- Zone 11 (Northern Ireland) - one valid nomination received in favour of Ian Gibson, GI4MDD.

Messrs Jackson, Davies and Gibson are therefore elected unopposed for a three year term of office as Representatives for their respective Zones.

### Zone 4

The February issue also called an election in Raynet Zone 4 (East Anglia). The following votes were received:

Chris Rutt, G0AMG, 28 votes;  
John Slater, G6EUO, 52 votes;  
Spoiled votes, none;  
Invalid votes, one.

John Slater, G6EUO, is therefore elected as the new Zone 4 Representative.

### Zone 9

Two valid nominations have been received for this vacancy:

Mr Charles Bottoms, G4PIP (Warwickshire), nominated by Martin Harrison, G3USF (North Staffs), Madeley Smith, G8KVU (Covantry), John Bazlay, G3HCT (Warwickshire), Harry Pinchin,

G3VPE (Solihull), and Brian Jones, G8ASO (Mid Severn Valley).

**Mr Don Sunderland, G6FHM (Shropshire)**, nominated by Syd Poola, G3IMP (Shropshire), Chris Hughes, G0DOW (Shropshire), Dava Hall, G8VZT (Shropshire), Ken Walker, G8DIR (Shropshire), and Denzil Jones, G1DMJ (Shropshire).

Any current Raynet member registered in Zone 9 (Hereford and Worcester, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Midlands) may record his or her vote for one of the above candidates in the following manner. No special ballot paper is required. The text of the vote should clearly indicate which candidate is preferred. Please do not include any other correspondence in the same envelope. On the back of the envelope, which must be sealed, write in capital letters your name and callsign. The envelope must be addressed to "The Secretary (Raynet Zone 9 Election), RSGB, Lambda House, Cranborne Road, POTTERS BAR, Herts, EN6 3JE". It must be received at RSGB HQ by 5.15 pm on Thursday 30 May 1990.

The election result will be announced on GB2RS, the Raynet Sunday Net, and in *Radio Communication*.

## Direction finding

The RSGB Council has recently agreed to the formation of a Direction Finding Committee. The task of this new committee of

Council will be to promote all facets of direction finding in the UK, if will not only promote UK 1.8MHz and 144MHz direction finding competitions but will also promote the IARU style of events on the 3.5MHz and 144MHz bands. The latter are almost certainly going to be popular with young people, and already the Society is talking to the Scouts Association about ARDF rules and equipment.

Any member of the Society who has a particular interest in direction finding is asked if they would like to join this new committee. If you are keen to join, please could you write to the new Chairman of the committee, Mr B.M. Bristow, G4KBB, at "Carmelot", Princes Street, Paddington, High Wycombe, HP14 3BN. Note: This supersedes the information on page 59. Please give details of your experience and interest in direction finding.

## RLO elections - save your RadCom address labels

The current terms of office of all RSGB Liaison Officers (RLOs) expire on 31st December 1990, and elections will take place later this year.

Full details of the elections, which will be administered on behalf of Council by the Membership Liaison Committee, will be published in next month's *RadCom*.

Corporate members who may

wish to participate in the RLO elections, either as a candidate OR as a nominator, should save the address label from the May or June issue of *RadCom* as it will need to be attached to the nomination form as proof of membership.

## Calling all schools and colleges

by Hillary Claytonsmit, G4JKS As Project YEAR Coordinator, I am trying to locate all colleges and schools in the UK which are involved in any way with amateur radio.

If you are a teacher, pupil or parent who knows of the existence of amateur radio clubs in a school or college, or of any groups meeting informally within educational establishments to promote amateur radio, please write to me.

I need the following information:-

- Name and type of school;
- Address including county;
- Number on roll;
- Type of amateur radio activity pursued;
- Number of licensed amateurs involved (identify those who are students);
- Also mention any amateur radio achievements which may be of interest to the RSGB, along with any photographs, publications etc which may be of use.

My address is:- 115 Marshalswick Lane, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4UU.

# HF Trophies Presentation

Ron Glaisher, G6LX, does the honours at the 1989 RSGB HF Convention



Northumbria Trophy: G3WAS/P (Lichfield ARS)



1930 Committee Cup: G3JKS (Frank Claytonsmit)



G6ZR Memorial Trophy: GSLO/P (Oxford & DARC)



G3XTJ Memorial Trophy: G3KHZ (D Cox)



Gravesend Trophy: G0AAA/P (Three A's Contest Group)



HF NFD Shield: G3VMW/P (Marple Contest Group)



Southgate Trophy: G4AR1/P (Tim Raven)



Whitworth Trophy: GW4BLE (SR Cole)



Edgware Trophy: Leicester Polytechnic ARS 'A'



Powdlich Trophy: G3FXB (Al Slater), who also received the Col Thomas Trophy



Houston-Fergus Trophy: G4JKS/P (Hillary Claytonsmit)



Frank Hoosen Trophy: G3YDD/P (Hereford ARS)



Braaten Trophy: G4BUO (Dave Lawley)



G2QT Cup Winners Cup: G4OBK (Phil Catterall), who also received the Somerset Trophy.



Verulam Silver Jubilee Trophy: G3NKS (Derek Thom)



Bristol Trophy: G3VER/P (Verulam ARC)

## MFJ

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MFJ986	3.0kW roller inductor tuner
MFJ989C	3.0kW versa tuner c/w cross needle peak reading meter and dummy load
MFJ16010	200W random wire tuner
MFJ931	Artificial RF ground
MFJ815	Peak reading cross needle 2k meter
MFJ840	5 Watt 2M Wattmeter
MFJ841	5 Watt 2M In line Wattmeter
MFJ202B	Receiver noise bridge
MFJ204B	Antenna noise bridge
MFJ206	Antenna current probe
MFJ945	300W mobile tuner
MFJ250	1kW dummy load
MFJ260	300W dry dummy load
MFJ262	1kW dry dummy load
MFJ264	1.5kW dry dummy load up to 650MHz
MFJ401B	Econo keyer
MFJ407B	Electronic keyer sends, lambic, automatic, semi automatic and manual
MFJ422B	Electronic keyer with dash memory c/w bench paddle
MFJ422BX	As 422B but less paddle
MFJ482B	Grandmaster memory keyer 1024 bits of memory
MFJ484C	Grandmaster memory keyer 4069 bits of memory
MFJ486	Grandmaster memory keyer 800 plus characters in 10 memories, auto S/N, etc.
MFJ722	CW/SSB filter
MFJ723	CW filter
MFJ752C	Dual tunable filter C/W notch
MFJ956	LW/MW/SW preselector/tuner
MFJ959B	Receiver antenna tuner/preamplifier
MFJ1040B	Preselector 1.8-54 MHz
MFJ109	World time clock
MFJ1270B	Packet radio controller
MFJ1274	Packet radio controller
MFJ1278	Multi-mode data controller
MFJ1286	Gramline software
MFJ1281	Easy-DX DXCC log/terminal programme/packet cluster interface

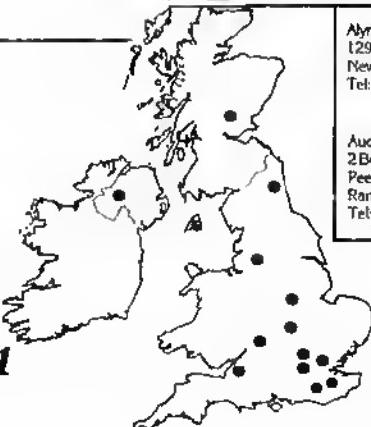
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TBR160S	160M add on for HF2V and HF6V
TLK	Top loading kit for HF2V
30MRK	30M add-on for HF2V
20MRK	20M add-on for HF2V
STR-11	Stub-tuned radial kit for HF6V
RMK	Roof-mount kit for HF6V, includes T2, MPS, STR-11 and hardware
T2	2ft tripod tower accepts - masts up to 1 1/2"
MPS	Mounting post sleeve HF6V
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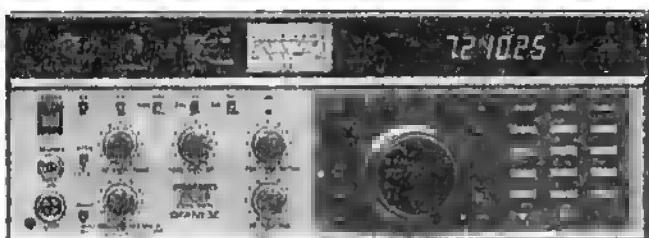
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<b>TT219</b>	250Hz 8 pole filter 9MHz for TT562/585
<b>TT220</b>	2.4kHz 8 pole filter 9MHz for TT562/585
<b>TT282</b>	250Hz 6 pole filter 6.3MHz TT562/585
<b>TT288</b>	1.8kHz 6 pole filter 6.3MHz TT562/585
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<b>TT254</b>	200W antenna tuner/SWR bridge
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<b>TT4112</b>	Mobile 12M antenna 72" high
<b>TT3115</b>	Mobile 15M antenna 72" high
<b>TT4117</b>	Mobile 17 meter antenna 72" high
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<b>TT3130</b>	Mobile 30M antenna 72" high
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<b>TT3175</b>	Mobile 75M antenna 78" high
<b>TT3180</b>	Mobile 50M antenna 78" high

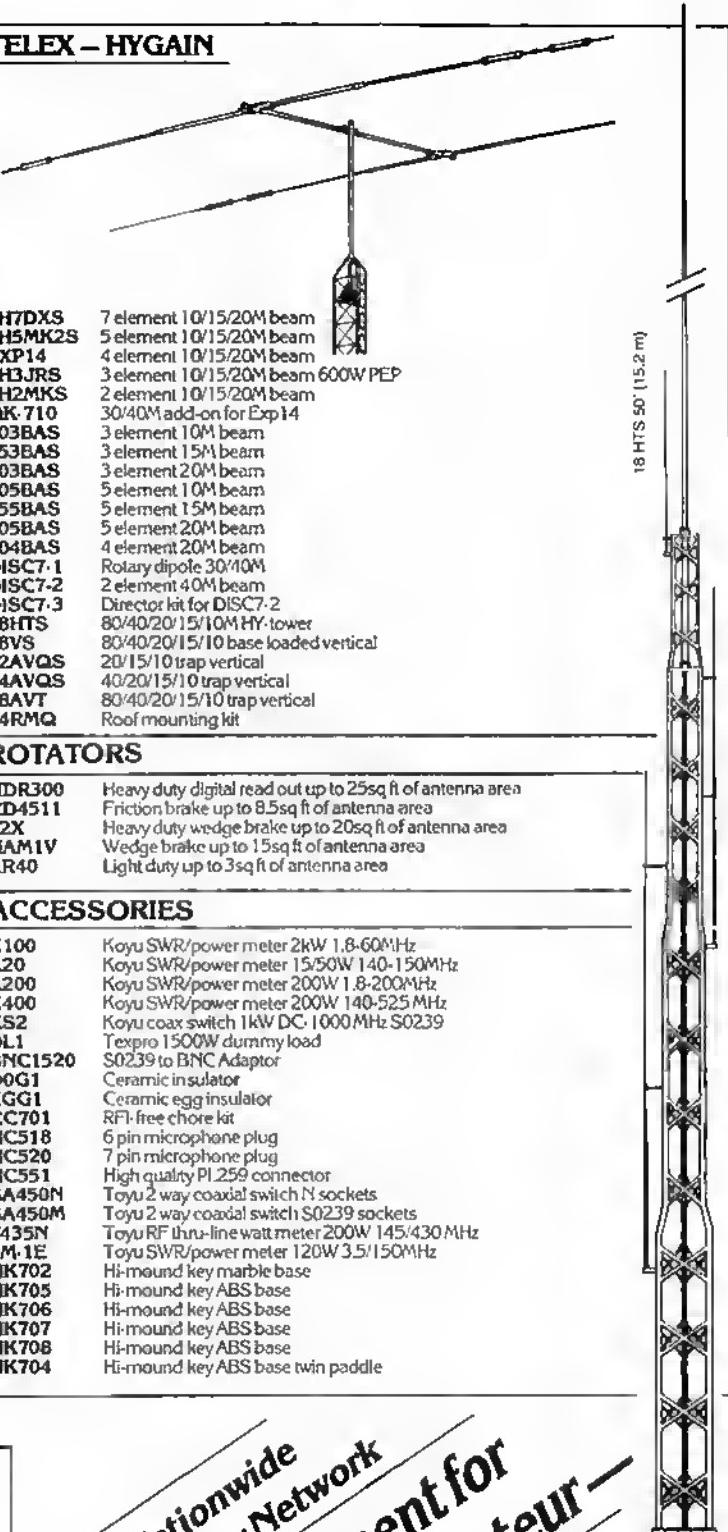
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<b>BM1014</b>	Boomset using HC4 insert ready for ICOM
<b>BM1015</b>	Boomset using HC5 insert ready for ICOM
<b>B10-Y4</b>	Boomset using HC4 insert ready for Yaesu
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<b>AR40</b>	Light duty up to 3sq ft of antenna area

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<b>K200</b>	Koyu SWR/power meter 200W 1.8-200MHz
<b>K400</b>	Koyu SWR/power meter 200W 140-525MHz
<b>KS2</b>	Koyu coax switch 1kW DC 1000MHz S0239
<b>DL1</b>	Texpco 1500W dummy load
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<b>SA450M</b>	Toyu 2 way coaxial switch S0239 sockets
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#### **OTHERS**

YH2	Headset PTT via VOX (except FT23/73R & FT470)	£28.75
PA8	Mobile DC Adaptor/Charger (FNB9/10)	£24.15
DCTPA6	DC lead for PA6 c/w cigar lighter plug	£4.03
CLIP1	Bell Clip	£4.00



#### **LEEDS**

SMC (Northern)  
Nowell Lane  
Industrial Estate  
Leeds LS9 6JE  
Leeds (0532) 350606  
9.30 Mon-Sat  
Closed Sat afternoons

#### **CHESTERFIELD**

SMC (Midlands)  
102 High Street  
New Whittington  
Chesterfield  
Chesterfield  
9.30 Mon-Sat

#### **JERSEY**

SMC (Jersey)  
1 Belmont Gardens  
St Helier, Jersey  
Jersey (0534) 77067  
9.30 pm Mon-Sat  
Closed Wed

#### **BIRMINGHAM**

SMC (Birmingham)  
504 Alum Rock Road  
Alum Rock  
Birmingham B8 3HX  
(021-327) 1497/8313  
9.00-5.00 Tues-Fri  
9.00-4.00 Sat

#### **AXMINSTER**

Reg Ward & Co Ltd  
1 Western Parade  
West Street  
Axminster  
Devon EX13 5NY  
Axminster (0297) 34918  
9.30-5.20 Tues-Sat

**SOUTHAMPTON SHOWROOM open 9.00-5.00 Monday to Friday, 9.00-1.00 Saturday. Service Dept open Mon-Fri 9.00-5.00.**

**SOUTH WALES AGENT: John Doyle, Transworld Comms, Neath (0639) 632374 Day (0639) 642942 Eve. Closed Thursday.**



NTS. S05 3BY TEL: 0703 255111 FAX: 0703 263507 TLX: 477351

## FANTASTIC PERFORMANCE, REALISTIC PRICE



The FT-747GX is a compact SSB/CW/AM and (optionally) FM transceiver providing 100 watts of PEP output on all ten amateur bands, and general coverage reception continuously from 100kHz to 30MHz. A front panel mounted loudspeaker and clear, unobstructed display and control layout make this set a real joy to use. Convenient features include operator selectable coarse and fine tuning steps optimized for each mode, dual (AFB) VFOs, along with twenty memory channels which store mode and skip-scan status for auto resume scanning of selectable memories. Eighteen of these memories can also store independent transmit and receive frequencies for

**WARNING:** If you buy FT747GX not designed for the U.K. market, these may not be fitted with AM/CW filters which you may not be able to obtain.

## IMPROVED PERFORMANCE AT NO EXTRA COST!

Yaesu's FT757GXII is a HF compact transceiver which offers full featured performance just about anywhere, on holiday, on the road or in the shack. Remarkably similar to the FT757GX the FT757GXII has a number of improvements which enhance the pleasure and ease of operation with no detriment to the electrical performance. The improvements include memory storage of operation mode, slow/fast tuning selection, automatic step change according to mode, IF Notch filter, 10 memories and VFO to VFO scan.

Other standard features include RX coverage from 500kHz to 30MHz, TX from 160m to 10m (WARC bands included), 100W RF output, SSB (LSB + USB), CW, AM & FM, iambic electronic keyer and AF speech processor.

A whole host of options are available to increase the operating pleasure.

So no matter where you are why not try Yaesu's FT757GXII full featured transceiver.

### OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

FP75HD Heavy Duty P.S.U.	£239.00	FAS-14R Remote Antenna Sw	£80.00
FP700 20A P.S.U.	£219.00	FC75AT Automatic ATU	£349.00
FL7000 500W solid state linear amplifier	£1600.00		

- ★ 160-10M HF TRANSCEIVER
- ★ GENERAL COVERAGE RECEIVER
- ★ ALL MODE (FM OPTIONAL)
- ★ 0-100W OUTPUT (25W AM CARR.)
- ★ CW NARROW (500Hz) STANDARD
- ★ LARGE CLEAR LCO DISPLAY
- ★ SIMPLE OPERATION (see pic below)

All major controls are grouped together for convenience and ease of operation.

easy recall of split-frequency operations. Wrdeband (6kHz) AM and narrowband (500Hz) CW IF filters are included as standard, along with a clarifier, switchable 20dB receiver attenuator and noise blanker. User programming for more advanced control by an external computer is possible through the CAT (Computer Aided Transceiver) System. The transmitter power amplifier is enclosed in its own diecast aluminium heatsink chamber inside the transceiver, with forced-air cooling by an internal fan allowing full power FM and packet, RTTY, SSTV and AMTOR operation when used with a heavy duty power supply.

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- ★ All mode SSB (USB + LSB) CW, AM and FM
- ★ All Band Tx (General Coverage RX)
- ★ 100% Duty cycle (100W, CW, FM 25W AM)
- ★ Pushbutton mode selection
- ★ Switchable VFO steps (All modes)
- ★ New Notch Filter
- ★ Dual VFOs and 10 memories (Freq & Mode)
- ★ Computer compatibility (with optional Interface)

## NOW EVEN BETTER: the FT757GX MK2

### NEW IMPROVED FT767GX



Yaesu have upgraded this popular HF and VF/UHF base station transceiver. The improved version is now available with enhanced synthesiser performance and VFO tuning rate. Read Chris Lorek's review in "Ham Radio Today".

- ★ ALL MODE LSB/USB, CW, FSK, AM & FM
- ★ ALL BAND Trans. General Coverage Receive
- ★ Optional VHF/UHF units (6M, 2M & 70cm)
- ★ 100% DUTY CYCLE (Key down CW for 30 mins)
- ★ Built in AUTOMATIC ATU (one memory on each band)
- ★ Computer & Packet radio compatibility

- OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES:
- 50/767 6M Unit 10W O/P ..... £179.00
- 144/767 2M Unit 10W O/P ..... £179.00
- 430/767 70cm Unit 10W O/P ..... £225.00
- FL7000 500W PEP HF Linear, £1600.00
- SP767 External Speaker ..... £69.95
- FIF232C Computer Interface ..... £75.00

For existing owners of the FT767GX who purchased their sets through Yaesu's official UK distribution network, Yaesu are offering an upgraded local unit for a nominal charge. Please contact us for details.

### SMC NORTHERN (LEEDS) CLOSED SATURDAY AFTERNOONS

#### \*FREE FINANCE ON SELECTED ITEMS

On many regular priced items SMC offers Free Finance (on invoice balances over £120) 20% down and the balance over 6 months or 50% down and the balance over a year.

You pay no more than the cash price!  
Details of eligible items available on request.  
Subject to status.

Free interlink delivery on major equipment.  
Small items, Plugs, Sockets, etc by post £1.75. Antennas, cables, Wires & larger items. Lynt up to £5. Interlink delivery available, upon request for items other than radios from £7.50 depending on weight. Same day despatch whenever possible.

#### YAESU DISTRIBUTOR WARRANTY

Importer warranty on Yaesu Murex products. Able staffed and equipped Service Department. Daily contact with the Yaesu Murex factory. Tens of thousands of spares and test equipment.

PRICES & AVAILABILITY SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

**SMC**

# South Midlands Communications Ltd.

## ROTATORS



Superb engineering standards combined with pin sharp setting accuracy means new technology from Yaesu create Kenpro Hygain.

### ROTATORS

AR200XL	OFFSET TYPE 3 WIRE	£49.50
G-250	BELL TYPE TWIST/SWITCH CONTROL	£78.00
G-400	BELL TYPE METER CONTROLLER	£139.00
G-400RC	BELL TYPE ROUND CONTROLLER	£169.00
G-600RC	BELL TYPE ROUND CONTROLLER	£219.00
HAMIV	BELL TYPE METER CONTROLLER	£327.00
T2X	BELL TYPE METER CONTROLLER	£499.00
G-800SDX	BELL TYPE 450 DEG VAR SPD	£325.00
G-1000SDX	BELL TYPE 450 DEG VAR SPEED	£368.00
G-2000RC	BELL TYPE ROUND CONTROLLER	£445.00
KR500	ELEVATION METER CONTROLLER	£149.95
G-5400B	AZIMUTH/ELLE DUAL CONTROL	£375.00
G-5600B	AZIMUTH/ELLE DUAL CONTROL	£435.00
RC5-I	BELL TYPE ROUND CONTROLLER	£219.00
RC5A-3	BELL TYPE VAR. SPEED AND PRESET	£425.00
RC5-3	BELL TYPE VAR. SPEED AND PRESET	£675.00

### ROTATOR HARDWARE

AR200AB	ALIGNMENT BEARING AR200XL	£17.50
K505	ROTARY BEARING 1 1/2" MAST	£19.95
G5-065	ROTARY BEARING 2" MAST	£29.95
GC-038	LOWER MAST CLAMP G-400, 600 etc	£16.95
9523	CHANNEL MASTER BEARING	£19.95
CK46	ROTARY BEARING 1 5/8" MAST	£34.95
MC1	LOWER MAST CLAMP RCS SERIES	£25.00

### ROTATOR CONTROL CABLE

RC5W	5 WAY G-400RC, 800, 1000SDX PER MTR	£0.48
RC6W	6 WAY G-250, 400, 600, RC KR500 PER MTR	£0.68
RC8W	8 WAY HAMIV, T2X 2000RC RC SERIES PER MTR	£0.72

### CARRIAGE:

ROTATORS FREE, ROTATOR HARDWARE £2.85, ROTATOR CABLE  
£0.00 - £1.00, MTR £0.00, 5 WAY £0.00, 6 WAY £0.00, 8 WAY £0.00

## MORSE KEYS



### MORSE KEYS

		P.P.
HK702	STRAIGHT KEY	£24.95 £3.00
HK703	STRAIGHT KEY	£38.45 £3.00
HK704	STRAIGHT KEY	£26.35 £3.00
HK705	STRAIGHT KEY	£22.49 £3.00
HK706	STRAIGHT KEY	£21.80 £3.00
HK707	STRAIGHT KEY	£20.15 £3.00
HK708	STRAIGHT KEY	£21.50 £3.00
HK710	STRAIGHT KEY	£38.95 £3.00
HK711	STRAIGHT KEY KNEE MOUNTING	£41.75 £3.00
HK100	MECHANICAL BUG	£34.95 £3.00
MK701	SINGLE LEVER PADDLE	£38.35 £3.00
MK702	SINGLE LEVER PADDLE	£35.25 £3.00
MK703	SQUEEZE KEY	£34.50 £3.00
MK704	SQUEEZE KEY	£20.00 £3.00
MK705	SQUEEZE KEY	£22.78 £3.00
MK706	SQUEEZE KEY	£30.48 £3.00
HK902	DELUXE BRASS KEY	£112.54 £3.50
HK903	DELUXE BRASS KEY	£107.75 £3.50
HK904	DELUXE BRASS KEY	£99.69 £3.50

### MORSE EQUIPMENT

KP100	SQUEEZE KEYER	£109.75 £3.50
DEWSKEYSTD	STAR MASTER KEYER	£54.69 £3.50
DEWSKEY M	STAR MASTERKEY MEMORY	£94.99 £3.50
D70	MORSE TUTOR	£58.35 FOC

### DATA TERMINAL

PK202FA/X	MULTIMODE DATA TERMINAL	£289.95 FOC
NAUTEX		

## SWR/PWR METERS



FS710V

YS60

FS710V	50-150MHz 15/150W	PEP £107.80
FS300H	18-80MHz 20/200/1000W	£53.40
FS210	1.8-150MHz 20/200W	Auto SWR £65.50
FS331M	2.30MHz 20/200W	£42.25
FS331MH	2.30MHz 200/200W	£42.25
FS711H	2.30MHz 20/200W	Head/Display £43.85
FS711Y	50-150MHz 20/200W	Head/Display £43.65
FS711U	430-440MHz 5/20W	Head/Display £43.65
FS711C	26.5MHz 10/100W	Head/Display £24.55
FS600V	50-150MHz 20/200W	£81.95
W720S	130-440MHz 20/200W	Head/Display £52.75
SWR608	3.5-150MHz 1/10W	£36.75
FS200L	3-150MHz 5/20W	£43.85
FS200	3-150MHz 5/20W	£43.85
SWR3E	3.5-150MHz 20/200/1000W	£28.75
JD110	15.150MHz 10/100W	£16.50
T435	144/430MHz 20/200W	£85.00
YMK	3.5-150MHz 1st Power/SWR Twin meter	£31.50
OSCAR-17IB	3.5-150MHz 1st Power/SWR Twin meter	£28.85
SP425	140-52MHz 5/15/150W	£119.95
YS60	18-60MHz 20/200/2000W	£93.15
YS500	140-52MHz 4/20/200W	£81.65

Damage on all power meters £4.00

## COMET & HOKUSHIN ANTENNAS

Now from Hokushin, an exciting range of high performance antennas, the WX1 has been a best seller for some time now, available are its bigger brothers the WX2 and WX4. Both are multi section 2m/70cm colinear and the mechanical construction the best we have seen yet. On the mobile front a new mini dual band mobile, the HS-727SS, very similar to the Comet CHL21J, and tests with our network analyser confirm its compatibility with our existing range of gutter and mag mounts. Also available a low profile hatchback mount and cable, the SS-B1, two new dual band antennas, the very slim VM-720SKR and the compact HS-727VMS. Both are suitable replacements for the 70N2M. For the HF enthusiasts a compact 10m HB9CV dual driven element antenna that is extremely light and very cleverly constructed.

### WX2

VHF/UHF Base VHF/UHF Base  
144/432MHz 144/432MHz

6/8db gain 7.8/10.8db gain

200W max 200W max

£75.00 £99.00

### WX4

VHF/UHF Base

144/432MHz

6/8db gain

200W max

£99.00

### HS-727SS

VHF/UHF Mobile

144/432 MHz

114.5/8.5dB

100W max

£16.95

### 28HS-2HB

10m 2 ele HB9CV

Dual driven element

6dBi gain

500W PEP max

£65.00

10m 2 ele HB9CV

Dual driven element

6dBi gain

500W PEP max

£65.00

10m 2 ele HB9CV

Dual driven element

6dBi gain

500W PEP max

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10m 2 ele HB9CV

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10m 2 ele HB9CV

Dual driven element

6dBi gain

500W PEP max

£65.00

10m 2 ele HB9CV

Dual driven element

6dBi gain

500W PEP max

£65.00

10m 2 ele HB9CV

Dual

# SPECTRUM ANALYSIS

HF

**JOHN ALLAWAY G3FKM**  
10 Knightlow Road, Birmingham:  
B17 8QB

## DX NEWS

**DX-NL** says that YB0TK is a pilot who flies to Angola each month and that he has a permit to operate as YB0TK/D2. He may be on the air monthly until July. A news release from ARRL dated 22 February confirmed that Walvis Bay is now a separate DXCC country under point 3 of the criteria. Credit will be given for contacts made since 1 September 1977 - the date when the administration of the area was transferred from South West Africa to the Cape Province of the Republic of S.Africa. Cards may be submitted for credit after 1 June 1990. The same source says that PA3FAC is stationed with the UN Peace Force in the Sinai desert and will be there until 14 September. He is trying to get permission to operate as PA3FAC/SU. TL8WD, in the Central African Republic, is to be found near 21.230MHz most days at 2030, and he will make skeds for other bands. 9L1US in Sierra Leone is now very active on 21.3MHz from 2200 and will be on all bands soon if not already.

**DX News Sheet** gives some information on activity from Antarctica. Y90ANT should by now be on the air from Georg Forster Base and be there for a year. The operator is Y21RQ and likely frequencies of operation - (cw) 3kHz up from lower edge of band on 1f and 10kHz on hf, (ssb) 3.790, 7.045, 14.190, 14.290, 21.190, 21.290, and 28.490MHz. HB9BPU is at the Greenpeace station until next January as ZL0AIC.

Sheridan Street, A92BE, says that he should soon be on 18 and 24MHz using a two-band home-made quad. All back QSLs have now been cleared and some 3,000 have been posted - each bearing definitive stamps from a special series depicting birds. IRCS are not accepted in Bahrain so Sheridan has arranged for GOLJH to sell them for him at 40p each with discount for more than 100.

According to the *Long Island DX Bulletin* HS0B and HS0E take turns as SEANET Net controller on Wednesdays on 14.320MHz at 1200. On Mondays HS0B joins another net on 14.226MHz from 1200 to 1500.

If you are looking for a contact

with Zambia try looking for 9J2AL near 28.530MHz from 1600.

LA7DFA is due to be on Jan Mayen Is until the end of July. He will mostly operate near the low end of the cw bands. DF1SD, DF7TU, DJ0YI, and HB9BUN, will be on from 4U1ITU in Geneva from 25 to 29 May using the callsign 4U51TU. They will be mostly on cw and will also use the WARC bands. If you hear SI8MI which will be on the air between 28 May and 3 June this is a group consisting of SM0BRQ, SM0MPV, SM0HBV, SM5XD, and QH2BDQ on Market Reef - but on the Swedish side so therefore not eligible for DXCC credit.

Soviet amateurs were allowed use of the 18 and 24MHz bands w.e.f. 1 January this year. Holders of first-category licences may use cw, rtty, and ssb, but second-category licensees are restricted to using cw.

## DXPEDITIONS

In a news release dated 2 March Jim Smith, VK9NS, said that he had just received telephone confirmation of his permission to visit the Kingdom of Bhutan to operate amateur radio. Telex confirmation was to follow. This comes after more than three years of negotiations with the Bhutan authorities. He says that his visa will be clearly marked to show that his visit is for amateur radio purposes and he will be met at Paro airport by the Director and Deputy Director of Wireless. Jim does not know his callsign but has asked for A51JS, and there are no time limitations on his visit. HIDXA needs contributions as a compulsory US \$200 per day has to be spent during Jim's stay. Donations should go to HIDXA, P.Q.Box 90, Norfolk Is, Australia 2889. The actual date of the visit was not known and it is just possible that it will already be under way or even over. In the latter case I hope you had a QSO!

He is also corresponding with the authorities in Bangladesh and has asked the Prime Minister for written "approval in principle" for a visit for amateur radio purposes. If successful Jim has suggested that the callsign S21JS might be suitable and that he would like to stay for two to four weeks. The outcome of all this is awaited with interest. There is in fact a national amateur radio society in Bangladesh (the Bangladesh Amateur Radio League) which is very much frustrated due to the lack of licensing in the country.

Jarvis Is was due to receive a visit by AH3C, K3NA, QH2BH, N7NG, WA6AUE, JG2BRI, and KN3T between 14 and 23 April. Unfortunately this news arrived too late for the April column. It is believed that Jarvis will be given DXCC country status because it is separated from other parts of the U.S territories in that part of the Pacific by "intervening sovereign territory". The closest US land is

## DX-HAPPENING

At the U.B.A.'s Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, May 26th, 1990  
Exhibition Grounds Kortrijk

### Programme

14.30 - 15.00

Presentation of trophies:  
The European Community Trophies  
The First European Community Awards

15.00 - 16.00

**DX Slide Show**  
**The Bouvet DX-Pedition**  
from Einar Enderud LA1EE/3Y5X

16.15

Results of DX Quiz

16.30 - 17.30

Peter 1st Island 1987

Accommodation is available at the nearby Condor Hotel, tel: 32 56 20 06 87. Please make your booking as soon as possible. To spend the rest of the week-end leisurely we advise you to make a journey to our lovely sandy beaches. A visit to the marvellous City of Bruges is also highly recommended.

This event is organized by the UBA HF Committee.

Palmyra Is but a straight line from Palmyra to Jarvis crosses the territory of Kiribati. Rules 2b and 3b of DXCC would seem to apply and recent similar cases - Market Reef and Kure Is - have been accepted. Contributions from Europe should go to Jarmo Jaakola, QH2BN, Killetie 5-C-30, 00710 Helsinki, Finland.

**DX News Sheet** lists the itinerary of AA6LF and family through the Pacific. They should be in the Tuamoto Is (FQ) now and in the Society Is (FQ) in June/early July. In late July they go to Penrhyn Is in the N.Cook Group as ZK1XP, then to Christmas Is as T32BQ, Palmyra Is as AA6LF/KH5, and Kingman Reef as AA6LF/KH5. They should reach Hawaii by September. It is believed that they will however spend a lot of time taking part in nets.

## PITCAIRN IS

Dave Miller, NZ9E, has sent me some information about Jim Russell, G3QKQ, who is currently operating as VR6JR. Jim is no stranger to the island and was last there helping the *HMS Bounty* descendants with their jetty rebuilding in 1985. He has kept in touch by radio since then and helped expedite goods to the island and provide a home for Pitcairn residents visiting the UK. He is staying with Ben and Irma Christian (VR6TD) whose son stayed with

him last year. Since arriving in mid-January VR6JR had made over 6,000 QSOs and was expecting to double the number before leaving in May or June. He made a special point of being there for the Bicentennial on 23 January and has been using the special callsign VR200PI/JR, mostly on 14, 21, and 28MHz but he is also spending a lot of time on 50MHz hoping for F2 propagation into the US and Europe. Look for him around 50.110MHz!

## FIRST CONTACT BETWEEN BV AND BY

9V1RH has kindly sent me an item translated from a bulletin produced by the Fuzhou section of CRSA by Mr Edward Teo in Singapore. It was written by BY4RC and goes as follows: "On the 12th December 1989 Mr Yang Leong Yong, BV2LB, had a QSO with Mr Chan Foong at BY4RSA for the first time. Mr Yang, an influential man in amateur radio affairs, helped to introduce ham radio activities into Taiwan. He told Mr Chan that in 1985 twenty five students passed the amateur radio examination and since then fourteen stations have been set up within Taiwan. In April 1989 a further seventy nine students passed, out of a total of 183 who took the second examination. Mr Chan at BY4RSA had also helped to introduce amateur radio activities into China. BV2LB had put a lot of

## OTH CORNER

FO0XXL

YASME Foundation, PO Box 2025, Castro Valley, Ca, 94546, USA.

HK0/N3JT

via W2GHK, 2417 Newton St, Vienna, VA 22180, USA.

SO1EA

EA2JG, Las Vegas 69, 01479 Luyendo, Alava, Spain.

TG0AA

CRAG, Apartado Postal 115, Guatemala City, Guatemala.

RH1W/UA4HVY

alt to Box 73, Zhiguijovsk 446350, USSR.

RH1Y/UA4HVY

Gary O'Toole, KB6ISL, 9605 San Gabriel Ave, South Gate, Ca, 90280, USA.

UH1W/UZ4HWS

Jim Russell, 138 Oyster Lane, Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 7QJ.

UH1Y/UZ4HWS

via HASPP, Baros u 38, H-1203 Budapest, Hungary.

VK200PI/JR

DL3MDJ, R. Rinder, am Hoelle 28, D-8912 Kaufering,

ZK1XL

F.R. Germany.

VR6JR

M. Gronik, Koellnische Str 22, Berlin 1190, DDR.

XZ8CW/DX

P.O. Box 2327, Walvis Bay, 9190, via S. Africa.

ZS9/A

Rudolf Klos, Kleine Unterg 26, D-6501 Niederd Olm,

ZS9/DK7PE

F.R. Germany.

## SPECTRUM ANALYSIS

effort into convincing the Taiwanese authorities to allow amateur radio communications between China and Taiwan and he hopes this will become an easy reality in March/April of 1990."

### AWARDS

#### ZMT and P-ZMT Awards

CRCC has announced that these two certificates were discontinued w.e.f. 1 January 1990. They also sent details of the awards currently available from Czechoslovakia. These include:

#### S6S

For confirmed contact with at least one station in each continent - cw, ssb, rtty, or sstv only (no mixed). Endorsements for single-band plus single type of emission.

#### P7SP

OSOs with at least one fixed station located in 50 ITU zones since 1 January 1960. Endorsements for 60 and 70 ITU zones.

#### 100OK

OSOs with at least 100 different OK stations since 1 January 1954. Endorsements for each additional 100 up to 500.

#### OK SSB

Two way OSOs with Czechoslovak stations to a value of 25 "points"

### 1990 28MHz COUNTRIES TABLE

G4MUW	141 (ssb)	G4NXG/M	57
G4VP	141 (ssb)	G2AKK	55 (cw)
GM4OBK	82	G4DXW	44
G0CKP	79	G0MXU	21
G4ZYQ	67	G0JSM	15
GM4ZIL	63		

One point for OSOs on 14, 21, and 28MHz, and two on 1.8, 3.5, and 7MHz.

All CRCC awards may be claimed when sending in logs of the OK DX Contest - in this case no OSLs are needed but a log should of course be sent.

These are also available to listeners. Send list of OSLs, certified by a society awards manager, to CRCC Awards Manager, P.O.Box 69, 113 27 Praha 1, Czechoslovakia. Certificates are free to those whose own society applies the same rules, otherwise 10 IRCs for P-75-P, or 5 IRCs for the others. Endorsements cost 2 IRCs. Note that certified lists for P-75-P should show the location of the listed stations.

### CONTESTS

#### SEANET WW DX Contest 1990

00001 21 July to 2359 22 July (cw)  
00001 18 August to 2359 19 August (phone)

Single-operator, single and multi-band and multi-band multi operator sections. 1.8 to 28MHz (no WARC

bands). Exchange RS/T plus serial number starting from 001. OSOs with stations in the SEANET area (DU/DV/DX, HS, YB/YC/YE, 9M2, 9M6, 9M8, 9V, and V85) 20 points on 1.8, 10 on 3.5, and 4 on 14, 21, and 28MHz. Contacts with stations in other SEANET areas have half these values. Multipliers are three for each SEANET country worked (besides those mentioned above these include A4, A5, A6, A7, A9, BV, BY, EP, HL, JA, JD1, JY, KH2, P29, S79, VK1-VK9, VO9, VS6, VU, XU, XV, XW, XX9, ZK, ZL1-ZL4, ZL6, ZL9, 3B8, 3B9, 4S7, 4X, 8Q, 9K, and 9N). No cross-band or cross-mode contacts allowed. One OSO per band - and numbers should begin from 001 on each band. Send log plus usual declaration to reach Contest Manager, Yathe 9V1JY, P.O.Box 2728, Singapore 9047, no later than 31 October 1990. Results will be sent to you if you include three IRCs with the entry.

In the 1989 ARI International Contest GM4ELV scored 2,832 and G0ANH 256 in the phone section.

On cw G3ESF came world sixth with 87,248 points.

### PROPAGATION

Smithy's report is rather shorter this month and goes as follows: "There was a distinct improvement in band conditions in the first half of March, including the weekends of the Commonwealth and ARRL Phone contests, due mainly to a less disturbed geomagnetic field. The sun continued to be markedly one-sided leading to a very strong 27-day component in the solar Indices. Smoothing this out, however, reveals a slow increase in average values from a low of 175 sfu at the end of February to 188 by March 22nd, at which time the daily values were rising steeply and nearing the 250 sfu mark.

A monthly average flux of around 190 sfu seems a possibility for March and past patterns suggest that April may see us back in the 200s - but readers can hardly see this as a prediction since the facts will be known by the time it appears in print! On the wider question of when is, was or will be the peak there is as yet nothing to be added to the discussion in last month's report."

### BAND REPORTS

This month saw reports from FE1JUD, G2AKK, G3s AGZ, GPE,

## HF F-LAYER PROPAGATION PREDICTIONS FOR MAY 1990

The time is represented vertically at two-hour intervals 00(00)GMT for each band, ie 00=0000, 02=0200, 04=0400 etc.

The probability of signals being heard is given on a 0 (Indicated by a dot) to a 9 scale; the higher the number the greater the probability with 1 meaning 10 to 19 per cent of days, and so on. Additionally 50MHz F-layer and 1.8MHz openings are indicated by a plus (+) sign in the 28 and 3.5MHz columns.

Time / GMT	28MHz	24MHz	21MHz	18MHz	14MHz	10MHz	7MHz	3.5MHz
000001111122	000001111122	000001111122	000001111122	000001111122	000001111122	000001111122	000001111122	000001111122
024680246802	024680246802	024680246802	024680246802	024680246802	024680246802	024680246802	024680246802	024680246802
** EUROPE								
MOSCOW	....11111..	...12222332..	1.1455556652	324666677875	76665556799	875322233578	642..1257	32.....24
MALTA	....111112..	...22333421..	212555666753	53477778887	988766667899	997533334689	885211..11368	452.....35
GIBRALTAR	....11111121..	1..1333344531..	311455666764	866776666898	998654344689	8863211111368	443.....4	
ICELAND	....11111111..	....121..	....12223442..	422355555776	876544344567	8753211111243	342.....2	
** ASIA								
OSAKA	....11111..	...12222211..	...1322244341..	...31114563..	....1..1572	....24..	....2..	
HONGKONG	....12222221..	...1233334431..	1.1333255765	2..1..14785	1..1686	....364..	....31..	
BAHKOK	....123333432..	...1334445641..	211123236874	41..1..14887	5..1688	2..367..	....34..	
SINGAPORE	....123444442..	1.2345456642	311133236875	51..1..14887	5..1688	2..367..	....34..	
NEW DELHI	....133444432..	112334456642	322112326875	63..1..14887	72..1..1689	5..367..	....35..	
TEHERAN	....1244455531..	21444556753	7651..1..14898	972..1..1689	74..1..1689	....368..	....51..	
COLOMBO	....2445555531..	213445556753	53221123356887	74..1..114898	83..1..1689	6..368..	....136..	
BAHRAM	....112455556542..	324545567765	565221236888	875..1..14899	972..1..1689	84..1..368..	....62..	
CYPRUS	....12445555532..	324666777764	657766676988	878655567899	997422235799	8741..1..2478	....751..	
AOEM	....323536666554..	545544567877..	77311236899	9861..1..14899	984..1..1689	861..1..368..	....63..	
** OCEANIA								
SUVA/S	....11111..	....11..	....12111232..	....122111254..	....241..1..153..	....1..2..		
SUVA/L	53341....75..	54562....86..	235841..1..284..	1673..1..462..	35..53..	2..21..		
WELLINGTON/S	....11111..	....11..	....122112..31..	1124311111152..	....441..1..1462..	....11..23..		
WELLINGTON/L	53341....25..	65561....47..	667821..1..77..	45773..1..286..	12551..1..463..	....22..24..		
BYOMEY/S	....112221..1..	....1343321..1..	112643322332..1..	1..2631..1..3425..	....3..1..1565..	....1..362..		
BYOMEY/L	31112..1..13..	43233..1..26..	534651..1..67..	323741..1..187..	....1..151..385..	....2..252..		
PERTH	....245551..	21356552..	432453321..1..	63123111221..1..	....51..1..145..	....3..364..		
HONOLULU	....11111..	....11..	....111221..1..1121..1..121..	....1121..1..125..	....331..1..11..22..			
** AFRICA								
SEYCHELLES	3235555566455..	545545567677..	8763122356899..	986..1..14899..	975..1..1689..	85..1..368..	....62..	
Mauritius	43556677765..	615466667897..	9473112336899..	9771..1..14899..	984..1..1689..	861..1..368..	....63..	
NAIROBI	53356677766..	755645567888..	988512236899..	9983..1..14899..	996..1..1689..	873..1..368..	....65..	
MARARE	632656777877..	864755667988..	987732336999..	9985..1..14899..	9972..1..1689..	885..1..368..	....62..	
CAPETOWN	1..566778876..	7..766567988..	71..853255899..	93..731..1..3899..	9815..1..1689..	8842..1..368..	....63..	
LAGOS	642455778877..	864655557988..	998732225899..	99872..1..3899..	9985..1..1689..	8852..1..368..	....63..	
ASCENSION IS	443155667763..	665376557885..	9986635224898..	998741..1..2799..	99851..1..1589..	8862..1..268..	....763..	
OAKAR	5333556677865..	765665556887..	988763212799..	999741..1..699..	99851..1..389..	8862..1..268..	....763..	
LAS PALMAS	21..243555542..	422466677764..	765787777898..	988876666899..	9987534334689..	997431..1..1752..	....752..	
** S. AMERICA								
SRB SHNETLAMO	....677861..	....1667984..	....1335897..	2..1..3798..	723..1..588..	8751..1..257..	663..1..35..	
FAKLAND IS	4..2677764..	711..1..3567887..	9531..1..3353899..	97821..1..3789..	99841..1..479..	8862..1..147..	663..1..25..	
R DE JANEIRO	4321..5666764..	6543225556787..	9875332233699..	998731..1..489..	99851..1..179..	8862..1..47..	663..1..15..	
BUENOS AIRES	4222..5566664..	6545..5566786..	987713233589..	998721..1..3899..	99851..1..69..	8862..1..37..	663..1..15..	
LIMA	21..121344443..	522243454455..	865553322242..	987641..1..28..	99851..1..6..	8862..1..3..	563..1..23..	
BOGOTA	2..1..13333343..	421134443455..	754453221237..	9866421..1..17..	99851..1..5..	7862..1..2..	563..1..23..	
** N. AMERICA								
BARBADOS	21..123344443..	422244444465..	88555211258..	987642..1..48..	99851..1..16..	8862..1..4..	663..1..33..	
JAMAICA	1..2222232..	31..1..33332234..	64333221121..	875541..1..16..	89751..1..3..	8682..1..4..	363..1..3..	
BERMUDA	1..1122232..	31..1..3232344..	642233221147..	875431..1..37..	89751..1..5..	8682..1..2..	463..1..3..	
NEW YORK	....11121..	2..1..1112233..	531111211235..	763321..1..26..	78751..1..4..	5852..1..1..	263..1..3..	
MEXICO	....11121..	2..1..122222..	431121121113..	653331..1..1..	58751..1..4..	2752..1..4..	43..1..2..	
MONTRÉAL	....1111..	1..111233..	421111211235..	753211..1..26..	78641..1..4..	5752..1..1..	253..1..2..	
SEINER	....1..111..	1..1112..1..112..	4211..1..112..	421..1..1..1..	3664..1..4..	1552..1..2..	23..1..2..	
LOS ANGELES	....1..111..	1..111..1..111..	2211..1..1..1..	14551..1..2..	252..1..2..	352..1..1..	12..1..1..	
VANCOUVER	....1..111..	1..111..1..111..	2211..1..1..1..	1331..1..1..	22..1..1..			
FAIRBANKS	....1..111..	1..111..1..111..	2211..1..1..1..	1331..1..1..	22..1..1..			

The provisional mean sunspot number for March 1990, issued by the Sunspot Index Data Centre, Brussels, was 140.8. The maximum daily sunspot number was 230 on 24 March and the minimum was 71 on 9 March. The predicted smoothed sunspot numbers for May, June, July were respectively: (classical method) 140, 137 and 135; (SIDC adjusted values) 142, 137 and 131.

GVV, KSH, LPS, G4BLH, GW4KGR, G4s MUW, NXG/M, GM4OBK, G4VVP, G4WXT, and G0CKP. Many thanks to all - and apologies to those who included 10, 18, and 24MHz which have been left out to save space. Calls listed in italics were stations using cw.

**3.5MHz**  
**0100** J39CR, VP2EHF, ZC4ESB.  
**0600** K6SS, N2KC/6, 6Y5FS.  
**0700** N7BSA (Nev.)

**7MHz**  
**0000** A61AC, VP2V/W2GUP,  
*VP2EZD.*

**0100** AP2ZE, UO7OJ, VU2GAM.  
**0200** P40V, S01EA, ZF2NO.  
**2000** G4WYG/ST2.

**2100** 9O5TE, 3W3RR.

**2300** TL8CX, ZD7KM.

**14MHz**

**0100** SO1EA.

**0300** VR6JR.

**0600** F00XXL, YK1AO.

**0800** ZK1XL, ZL7TZ, 4K2OT (*F.J. Land*).

**1100** BY4RSA, HS0B, UAO/  
*GB4MSS.*

**1300** DF5HA/H44.

**1600** V63AE, ZL6A.

**1900** AL7KW, P29VMS, ZD7VJ, ZL,  
*3W8RR, 9V1YC.*

**2000** BV7RA, EP2HZ, PJ6/AA4OV,  
*9Q5PL.*

**2200** KL7HF, SO1EA, 4K2BDU  
*(FJL).*

**2300** KC4AGY, VU2GI, 9V1XW.

**21MHz**

**0600** F00XXL.

**1000** BY4BC, KHO/J01SEF,  
*P29VMS, 3A/OL2SQ.*

**1600** FR4FO, V51NAM, YB.

**1800** KH8IJ, S24U, S83H, ST4/  
*W26C, 3W3RR.*

**1900** HS1BV, KH6JF, LU1ZA.

**2000** J20TW, PJ4V, ZM1AIZ.

**2100** S92LB.

**2200** CE0ICO, J73WA.

**2300** JT1JTZ.

**28MHz**

**0800** KH8/SM7PKK, 8O7XE.

**0900** BY8AC, JA, RA0AQ/JT.

**1000** AH9AC, BY5RF, VQ9LW,

*YJ8M, XX97TD, 9M2YB.*

**1100** FT5XH, KL7PJ, S21U, S)

*1EA, T26VV, 3W3RR.*

**1200** A61AD, OK1CE/H44, KHO/

*J01SEF, 8O7CV.*

**1400** PYOFF, TL8HW, V47A,

*VP2VE, XE3XE.*

**1500** KHOEHM, G4WYG/ST2,

*VP5VPA.*

**1600** D68CY, VY9CC, XT2BW.

**1700** W6-W7, ZS9A, 4K1J, 9L1US.

**1800** F00MGZ, KH6IJ, V31B,

*ZL3GQ.*

**1900** CE0DMY, JR4ISF/CE0,

*K6GSS/KH6, V2/JJ1ZB*

**2000** P40V, V31UK.

**2100** XE3XE.

Many thanks to DX News Sheet (G4OYO), the Ex-G Radio Club Magazine (WA8TGA), DX Report (VK9NS), the Lynx DX Group Bulletin (EA2JGO), DXpress (PA3CXC), DXNL (OL3RK), and the Long Island DX Bulletin (W2IYX).

Closing date for July issue is 26 May.

## UHF/VHF

**NORMAN FITCH G3FPK**  
 40 Eskdale Gardens, Purley, Surrey CR8 1EZ

Once again, there have been no major openings to enthuse about and the general impression is of rather mediocre VHF/UHF propagation so far this year. This past month, there have been short periods of enhanced tropospheric activity and a few auroras, but nothing even approaching the historic events of March, 1989. On 50MHz, Luxembourg stations are now active and the Italians have been granted a very small allocation.

### PROPAGATION

At first glance, it might seem that the progress of sunspot cycles is of prime concern to HF operators. After all, during the troughs of cycles, we VHF/UHF enthusiasts still enjoy periods of excellent propagation, even though the 28MHz band may seem dead for weeks on end.

Ionospheric conditions are determined by solar activity, whereas tropospheric propagation is weather derived. On a world wide scale, we could have excellent HF propagation up to 50MHz co-existing with dreadful Ipropo conditions locally, due to deep low pressure systems.

High solar flux, with low geomagnetic activity, is the recipe for the best conditions for F-layer propagation. This combination has resulted in many memorable 50MHz openings to all continents during the past year. High geomagnetic activity has produced some superb auroral propagation on VHF, such as in the period 13-15 March 1989.

In a few years time, the only DX workable on 50MHz will be via the E-layer in summer, so we should be studying the trend of the solar indices to see where we are going. The propagation experts have suggested that the peak of Sunspot Cycle 22 could occur about now but prediction is difficult due to the erratic behaviour of the sun in recent months.

Every Sunday, the GB2RS news bulletin includes a solar factual data section. This gives the average sunspot number, solar flux and geomagnetic, A, value for the preceding week. I have plotted these for the first eleven weeks of 1989 and 1990 and the graphs clearly show this year's solar flux average to be 17.5% down on last year - 188.9 compared to 229.

This does not necessarily mean we have already passed the peak of Cycle 22, for the sun may burst into hyper-activity again by the time you read these comments. Meantime, keep an eye on the observations of Smithy, G8KG, which John

Allaway, G3FKM, often includes in the HF section of *Spectrum Analysis*.

The A index comparison over the same period reveals 1990 to be 29.7% down on last year, but that is because of the exceptionally high value of 79 recorded in the 13-19 March period last year. Based on the first ten weeks, this year's average is 13.8 compared to 14.3 in 1989, only a marginal difference.

### BEACON NOTES

The Malta beacon, 9H1SIX, has resumed service on 50.085MHz following replacement of the gale damaged antenna. Contrary to what was published last month, I now understand from 9H1BT via GW3LDH that it will not QSY to 50.515MHz. In Venezuela, YV5ZZ plans to operate a 50MHz beacon, callsign YV5ZZ/6, probably on 50.045MHz. PT7AAC is a new Brazilian beacon on 50.078MHz located at HI06RF; it runs 5W to a quarter-wave ground plane antenna.

### SOFTWARE

Last month I mentioned Nigel Wilson's, G4VVZ (NOT), contest logging and scoring software which he developed for the Derbyshire Hills Contest Group. He has now sent a copy of the latest version, written for the Amstrad PCW8000 series computers. It comprises a suite of short programs which are selected by the 'Chain' command feature of Mallard Basic. Duplicate checking is carried out as the callsigns are entered, by creating and opening keyed data files using the 'Jetsam' facility.

Nigel has placed the system in the Public Domain on an 'E & O.E.' basis, so I had a thorough look at all twelve programs. The only significant necessary changes were to bring the distance and points calculating routines into line with RSGB Contest Rule 9, and to write definitive locator validity checking routines. He has now compiled a User's Manual which explains the system and then takes you step by step through a typical logging and scoring exercise.

I have used the system to score a recent contest log and it proved easy and quick to use. Locators can be entered in both Maidenhead and E-OTH form and there is a separate program for converting E-OTH to Maidenhead. Another useful feature is the RECALC program which enables you to re-score an entry from another location.

The complete set of Basic programs, named OHCG, takes up 43k on a 173k single density 'A' drive disc. The manual is available in two versions; in plain ASCII form (34k) so that you can edit with your favourite word processor, or in LocoScript 2 (48k) formatted to print on 20 pages of A4 size paper. If anyone wants a copy, send me a

formatted CF-2, A Drive 3 inch disk in a Jiffy Bag, with return postage and a self-addressed label.

### METEOR SCATTER

May is a reasonable month for MS operators with several potentially useful streams. Last month I mentioned the Eta Aquarids whose parent body is comet Halley. On 8 May, there are the Halleyids stream, which has fairly similar parameters, and the Piscids, whose Right Ascension is 12 deg, and Declination, +19 deg. The Nu Piscids (RA 16 deg, Dec +27 deg.) peak on the 12th, followed by the Omicron Cetids (RA 22 deg, Dec -4 deg.) on the 14th. These last three are all daylight streams.

### BAND PLANNING

The March VHF/UHF column included a proposal by the VHF Committee for a revised band plan for 70MHz. Several members sent comments on this and submitted their own proposals. The problem is that if you ask ten people to write a band plan, you'll get ten different ones. My own feeling about band plans in general is that we should avoid being too specific, such as writing in dedicated frequencies for FAX and ATV talk back, for example. Certain activities, such as packet radio, do need common frequencies, but others do not.

Amateur radio is an avocational hobby and the days when CW and AM were the only modes have gone forever. We have to make room for those who wish to experiment with, and use, newer modes. In formulating a revised band plan, we try to accommodate existing usage but sometimes this is inappropriate.

A case in point, which some will recall, was the first mass appearance of SSB on two metres. The original Belcom Liner-2 transceivers were crystalised up for the top part of the band and 145.41MHz was the main centre of activity. Then along came repeaters and a new band plan to accommodate them, so the SSB users had to move.

All your letters, suggestions and comments already received, or yet to come, will be considered by the VHF Committee during forthcoming meetings, along with the needs of special interest groups, such as Raynet and packet radio. We will try to achieve a 70MHz band plan which will satisfy the majority, but it must be appreciated that there will have to be some give and take.

During its March meeting, the VHF Committee discussed the 50MHz band plan which now has to accommodate the new CW and telephony Novice Licence allocation of 51.25 to 51.75MHz. Raynet, packet radio and repeater groups are all interested in staking claims for channels and some have already contacted the VHFC, but it is essential that the individual users' views are known.



Locator squares table participant and *RadCom* cartoonist Paul Thompson, G8MEN, at his home in Shrewsbury.

Please think about this band and let me have your comments about a possible repeater network, including the RX/TX split - why stick to 600kHz? - where packet radio channels should be, an all-mode section, an exclusive FM section, channel spacing - does it have to be 25 or 12.5kHz? - the beacon sub-band and anything else I haven't mentioned.

Unlike the parochial 70MHz band, 50MHz is an international allocation, so planning has to take this into account. To avoid any confusion, I asked the Chairman of the VHFC to send a short statement of the story so far, but unfortunately nothing was received up to my deadline. During our June meeting we will also have to consider relevant matters arising from the Torremolinos conference in April.

Meantime, it would be useful to know what equipment 50MHz operators are using to get on the band. Does the majority use dedicated, all mode transceivers, or linearly transvert from another band? If the latter, is the 'prime mover' a channelized FM or an all-mode model?

#### THE VHF CONVENTION

A reminder that the Society's National VHF Convention is on Saturday 12 May from 1030 - see page 23. The VHF Committee will have a stand, so we hope to discuss VHF/UHF matters with some of you. Two pairs of turnstiles will be used, so you can form two queues instead of one long snake back to the gates. The car parking will be professionally marshalled this year.

#### CW PRACTICE

Some years ago the Society

negotiated with the DTI to allow B licensees to use Morse on the VHF. This was intended to give those wishing to take the Morse test an opportunity for on-air practice using conventional hand keys. Numerous informal groups take advantage of this and have regular nets on FM and SSB.

Many individuals have improved their send and receive capabilities enough to pass the test, which is commendable. However, it is becoming a bit too much of a 'good thing' in the London area where several nets operate in the main SSB part of the band, irrespective of conditions. May I suggest these nets move into the all-mode, non-channelized section, 144.500-144.845MHz? I realize that the band plan shows that 144.250MHz is used for RSGB slow Morse transmissions, but this does not mean it has to be used for all Morse practice.

In the evening of 12 March, I heard a GOL\* and a GOM\*\* practising on 144.150MHz, on FM, would you believe? They were using audio oscillators in front of their microphones, so several expletives were broadcast when one of them made numerous errors! I counted at least ten carriers either side of 144.150MHz. They were probably not interested in VHF at all, but merely used any convenient frequency on 144MHz in complete disregard of the band plan and with no consideration for other users. This we can do without.

#### NORTH POLE 90

Laurence Howell, GM4DMA, called in on our breakfast net on 14.132MHz on 25 March; he was operating UAO/GB4MSS from the

Sredny Island base camp. Other operators were Morag, GM0MUV; Sergai, EK0AAA; Nick EK0DJG and Galina, EK0DSP. Morag was due to leave for the Soviet ice station forward camp around 28-30 March and is the first woman to operate from any such 'ice mobile' location. Her call is UAO/GB4ICE.

As for conditions, Laurence said that they see auroras and receive Band 1 TV from northern Norway every night when geomagnetic conditions are stable. When the geomagnetic field is high, the aurora shifts southwards and all radio propagation suffers severe D-layer absorption.

The peak time for TV is around 1730, but it has come in as early as 1400 in disturbed conditions. In March, TV from Varanger was copied on 7, 9, 11-16, 18, 23 and 24. He suggests that the optimum time for 50MHz double-hop Arctic-E would be 1400-1800 UTC. Up to 25 March, the only amateur signal identified on 50MHz was CW from OH9NLO during an aurora.

They are in contact with their press office in London twice each day and also send their own news bulletins through the packet network. By arrangement with the University of Surrey, they have direct access to the UOSAT-2 (UO-11) satellite, including the digipecker, so listen on 145.825MHz when this spacecraft is within UK range. Laurence has been active on the European VHF net on 14.345MHz from time to time.

The characteristics of VHF propagation from these high, Arctic latitudes is little known. We are familiar with auroral propagation from outside the auroral oval, but the communication possibilities within it remain to be researched in detail. This expedition, coming at the peak of a sunspot cycle, should provide some fascinating data.

#### 50MHz

Ray Cracknell's, G2AHU (HWR), February report contains an interesting section on off-line propagation. He writes: "There were many queries about the off-line reception from 9L1US and the persistence of weak propagation after fade-down around noon. Sierra Leone is north of the equator, therefore signals are, by definition, not strictly

'transequatorial.' But Freetown sits right on the line of zero magnetic dip and is, therefore, ideally situated to encounter the more northerly of the over-dense regions of the tropical ionosphere."

"Prior to noon, the almost normal F-region gave us excellent optimum distance - approximately 5,000km - one-hop skip into Britain. Then, as the MUF rose, the skip shortened and the over-dense regions became field aligned providing a scattered signal and off-line propagation. Observations on the 9L1US beacon at G2AHU showed most off-line to be, as usual with TEP, mainly up to 20° west of the direct bearing, but on one occasion an austral shift was observed."

There were sixteen days in February when Scottish-type auroras were reported from Britain. The band came to life on the 21st, with daily openings to West Africa, several minor, then a major opening to ZS6 on the 27th. On the 28th, the band opened to Western Australia with the following stations reported: From G, VK6s HB, HK, RO, WD, YU, ZFY and ZKO. From G1, VK6s HK, KXW, RO and ZKO. From GJ, VK6s HK, KXW, YU, ZFY and ZKO, with a weak VK8 heard. From GM, VK6s HK and KXW.

From Greece, Costas Filmerellis, SV1DH, reported poor days on the 2nd and 10th, with the 15th and 25th as the best. 16 countries were heard or worked in the month, mainly in Africa, but also FR, EA8, KP2, J3 and FY.

From Zimbabwe, Mal Gaddes, Z23JO, reported regular signals from the Mediterranean region. The most consistent beacon was 5B4CY, with SV1SIX quite reliable. On 27 February, he worked G, ZC4 and three W5s. Mal wonders why only the Gs and Ws seem to use CW?

Mike Barry, ZD8MB, was a regular reporter to G2AHU from Ascension Island but should be back in the UK about now, where his callsign is G4MAB. His ZD8HF beacon on 28.925MHz went ORT on 20 January, but ZD8VHF on 50.032MHz was still ORV. Hopefully it will continue to operate. Mike has provided a unique, long term opportunity to study propagation from the middle of the Atlantic Ocean during the current solar cycle.

Next some items from the 6m Information Pages published by Ted Collins, G4UPS (DVN). All Luxembourg amateurs have been given use of the band 50.000 to 50.450MHz from 3 March, 100W ERP with horizontal antennas; some of them worked down to ZS3 on the first day. The Italian stations have been active since 19 March, but they only have a tiny band, 50.1515 to 50.1635MHz, and a 10W power limit. Even so, some of them completed TEP OSOs with ZS stations on the opening day.

From St Helena, ZD7CW has

#### ANNUAL VHF/UHF TABLE January to December 1990

Callsign	50MHz		70MHz		144MHz		430MHz		1.3GHz		Total Points
	Cty	Ctr	Cty	Ctr	Cty	Ctr	Cty	Ctr	Cty	Ctr	
G4XEN	—	—	—	—	51	10	32	3	1	2	99
G0CUZ	—	—	—	—	53	8	14	1	—	—	76
G1WYC	5	3	—	—	27	9	15	6	—	—	65
G3FPK	—	—	—	—	49	8	—	—	—	—	57
G8PPY	4	4	1	1	25	7	9	2	—	—	53
G7CLY	—	—	—	—	41	4	—	—	—	—	45
G4OUT	—	—	7	1	28	5	—	—	1	—	41
G6HKM	2	4	—	—	21	7	1	2	—	—	37
GM0GEI	18	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33
GW6VZW	21	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30

British counties are those listed in the January 1990 *RadCom*, but excluding IOS; 77 in all. Up to three different stations allowed in all 12 GM regions. Do not include EI counties. Countries are the usual DXCC ones plus IT9.

# RSGB NATIONAL VHF CONVENTION

Sandown Park Racecourse, Esher, Surrey

## SATURDAY 12 MAY 1990

- One day exhibition and lecture programme
- Specialist groups
- Full lecture programme on VHF, UHF and micro-wave subjects
- Equipment test facility
- Morse tests
- Presentation of trophies
- Comprehensive trade exhibition

### PROGRAMME

1030	Convention opens. Enter through main entrance. Refreshments. Snack bar in the hall will be open from 1100 to 1800 and the licensed bar will be open throughout the convention.
1130	AGM 6m Group.
1330	Convention address and presentation of trophies by RSGB President Frank Hall GM8BZX

### LECTURE PROGRAMME

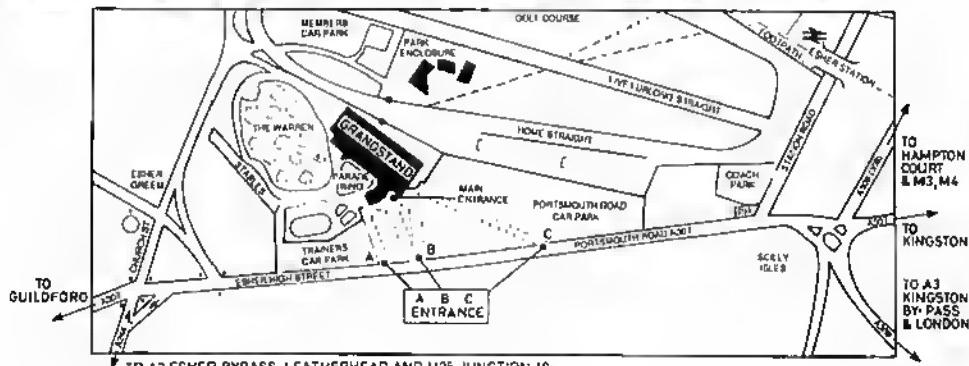
Detailed Arrangement for Lectures will be Notified on Arrival

	A	B	C
1415	'The Optimum System for VHF/ UHF Transverters or Black Boxes' <i>Angus McKenzie, G3OSS</i>	'New Amateur Satellites launched This Year' <i>Ron Broadbent, G3AAJ</i>	'Communication by Light' <i>Dr. Julian Gannaway, G3YGF</i>
1515	'DX and the Solar Cycle' <i>Ray Cracknell, G2AHU</i> <i>Prof. Martin Harrison, G3USF</i> <i>Ted Collins, G4UPS</i>	Microwave Committee Forum	Remote Imaging Group AGM <i>Henry Neale, G3REH</i>
1615	VHF Contests Committee Forum	'Construction of Simple Microwave Sources' <i>Sam Jewell, G4DDK</i>	Morse Test Forum <i>Robert McEwan Reid, G4GTO</i>
1715	Lecture Sessions Ends		
1800	Trade exhibition closes. Convention ends		

### ADMISSION

To simplify management and to reduce costs, it has been decided, as last year, not to issue admission tickets for this convention, either in advance or at the gate.  
Admission will be by payment on entry as follows:

Convention and exhibition .....	£1.50
" " " (under 18) .....	£1.00
" " " (under 14) .....	Free



Map by courtesy of United Racecourses

**RAIL TRAVEL**  
British Rail  
WATERLOO  
TO ESHER  
**ACCESS MAP TO SANDOWN PARK**  
Talk-in station  
GB2VHF:  
channels S22  
SU22

## SPECTRUM ANALYSIS

been quite active recently but up to late March had not worked any Europeans. OSOs for Julian go via N4CID. The Southern Sudan expedition mentioned in the March VHF/UHF seems to have been put back and was due to start on 15 April, lasting about three weeks. 50MHz gear has been provided and the callsign is ST0/PA3DFT.

As every radio amateur knows, the very first thing any country does after gaining independence is to change its amateur radio callsigns. Namibia was no exception and the new prefixes are V50 for the ZR3s and V51 for the ZS3s. Beacon ZS3VHF is now V51VHF and ZS3E's keyer should be sending V51E.

Trevor Day's, G3ZY (CNL), trip to Gibratarr has been confirmed, the dates being 21 June to 12 July using the callsign ZB2HN. Activity will be at weekends and most evenings, with some daytime operation possible. ZB2EO, a very experienced operator, is currently ORV from The Rock and has been worked by ZS stations.

At long last, Walvis Bay has been accorded DXCC status retrospective to 1 September 1977, but cards should not be submitted for DXCC credit until after 1 June. ZS9H is a regular operator there, as mentioned last month. Following the death of DL3ZM, Gerry's logs for his DL3ZM/YV5 operation have been passed to K8EFS, so anyone requiring a QSL should contact Andy. He is also acting as QSL manager for YV5ZZ.

Darrell Moody's, G0HVO (GLR) report covers the period from 25 February when he worked 9L1US (IJ48) at 1137, just before the band closed. ZS stations were heard till 1715 on the 27th and the beacon, ZS3VHF, till 1810. On 3 March, the JAs that GJ4ICD was working were inaudible in Tuttley. On the 10th, he contacted ZS6WB (KG44) at 1202 for his first South African.

Darrell discovered an aurora just before midnight on the 12th and worked G18YDZ (IO65), GM8MBP (IO87) and GM0GEI (IO77), the event ending at 0045. Weak auroral CW from GM4DGT was copied at 2240 on the 13th, but CQ calls proved fruitless. Similarly, on the 18th, GM0GEI was heard for a few minutes from 2120. In summary, he is rather disappointed with conditions which seem inferior to those of February/March last year.

Neil Carr, G0JHC (LNH), reports strong signals from 9L1US on 24 and 25 February. He worked ZS3KC on 4 March and the next day "...saw the best opening to ZS6 so far this cycle with signals S9 plus 30dB. In fact, ZS6WB was S5 with a screwdriver for the antenna." A 45 seconds opening on the 10th brought a contact with ZS4S (KG41) and on the 14th he worked Z23JO.

Neil says that it can be most frustrating for northern stations in the early part of the year, since

Callsign	LOCATOR SQUARES TABLE Starting date: 1-1-1979				
	50MHz	144MHz	430MHz	1.3GHz	Total
GJ4ICD	355	263	119	59	798
G4JE	307	339	5	2	642
G8HCV	243	231	—	—	474
G0JHC	232	48	—	—	280
G3IMV	221	427	125	51	824
G8HKM	193	217	109	46	565
GM0GEI	177	—	—	—	177
G4TIF	172	204	111	—	487
G4VXE	147	162	42	4	355
G1SWH	143	149	53	—	345
G1KDF	139	180	102	37	458
G0DAZ	137	316	122	39	614
G8PPY	119	106	31	—	258
G1SMD	115	106	—	—	221
G8LHT	113	185	93	14	405
G8JTM	109	151	52	—	312
G4MUT	98	153	94	34	379
G0HVO	89	71	—	—	160
G0EVT	88	209	57	—	354
G0LFF	83	153	—	—	236
G4RK	69	302	140	52	563
G8MEN	67	54	27	3	151
G4XEN	88	294	114	5	479
G1DOX	54	73	16	8	151
G1LSB	44	172	143	—	359
G8XTJ	44	120	—	—	164
G6DEF	43	183	114	82	422
GM1BVT	41	21	—	—	62
G1CEI	11	77	18	—	108
GM1VJ	6	48	—	—	54
G4KUX	—	384	120	—	504
G0CUZ	—	330	73	—	403
G4RRA	—	280	80	—	380
G4SSO	—	256	98	—	354
G4PIO	—	261	87	—	348
G4WX	—	347	—	—	347
GM4YXI	—	340	—	—	340
G4DHF	—	325	—	—	325
G8ATK	—	143	94	52	289
G0GMB	—	187	99	—	286
G1GEY	—	170	92	22	284
G8STI	—	152	69	24	245
G4YTL	—	245	—	—	245
G3FPK	—	241	—	—	241
GM4CXP	—	198	31	—	229
GW4FRX	—	228	—	—	228
G4DOL	—	216	—	—	216
G4XBF	—	171	—	—	171
G4TGK	—	137	—	—	137
GW4VVX	—	115	—	—	115
GM0GDL	—	83	22	—	105
G6UWO	—	41	44	18	103
G7CLY	—	100	2	—	102
G1WPF	—	101	—	—	101
G6ODT	—	21	47	—	66
G8HDZ	—	64	—	—	64

No satellite, repeater or packet radio OSOs. "Band of the month" 50 MHz.

many openings enjoyed by southern stations never reach his area. He cites 11 March when all ZS call areas were being worked from the south of England for several hours, yet not a whisper from any of them at his latitude.

Steve Smith, G1WYC (LCN), is a new contributor. He uses an FT-726R running 10W to a dipole antenna 12m AGL, his OTH being 1m below sea level. He is active on other bands and now has an entry in the Annual Table.

John Hunter, G3IMV (BKS), confirms the good opening to ZS on 11 March, the one that didn't reach Lancashire. He heard ZS2BE (KF26), ZS5DW and ZS5X (KG50), ZS3SW, and various ZS's. All those in squares he needed he couldn't work as he was unable to break through the F5 and southern G stations. However, he did contact ZS6AXT (KG33) and ZS9A.

G4UPS worked 9L1US on CW at 1150 on 24 February for his 75th country. On the 27th Ted worked ZS6LN (KG46) at 1508, then ZS6AXT, and ZR6R (KG44) at 1714. In the VK6 opening on the 28th, Ted

contacted VK6RO (OF77), VK6YU and VK6HK (OF78) from 0924. VK6ZKO and ZWX were also heard.

In March, Soviet TV was heard from 0840 on the 2nd and at 1301 OA8ABT was heard working Gs. Weak JAs were copied from 0914 on the 3rd and he worked JR2HCB on CW at 0950. The next day brought ZS3/G8WNP (JG87) at 1418. On the 10th, G stations were heard working Z23JO, FR5EL, A22BW and various ZS6s, none of whom were audible in Devon. Other ZS activity is reported on the 11th, 12th and 14th. Ted records nil activity on the 7th, 13th, 15-17th and 19th.

Ela Martyr, G6HKM (ESX), reports OSOs with ZS6AXT, ZS6WB and ZS6LN on 10 March. A CQ call next day brought a reply from ZS6AXT again. In the aurora on the 12th she contacted three OZs for a new country and a couple of new squares. The event also brought QSOs with GM8MBP and GM6VXB (IO97), another new square.

Steve Damon, G8PPY (DOR), lost his antennas three times in the severe gales of January and

February. Each time he installed a stronger support system, but Mother Nature defeated his efforts. However, he is now QRV again and on 10 March worked ZS6LN and the next day, ZR6A. George Ripley, GD3AHV, records QSOs with 9L1US on 24 February, VK6HK on the 28th for his first Oceania QSO, and ZS3/G8WNP on 4 March.

Geoff Brown, GJ4ICD, worked three VK6s from 0932 on 28 February and heard others as previously mentioned. At 1020 he contacted ZC4MK on back scatter and at 1256 heard OA8ABT when beaming east; the correct heading brought the signal up to S9 plus 30dB. 3 March was a 'star day' with 63 JAs worked from 0920 till 1025 when he had to QRT to do some work. At 1510, LX1JX (JO30) was contacted on 28MHz and immediately afterwards on 50MHz for a claimed GJ/LX first. Other QSOs were with OE5KE and TU4DH (IJ85).

On the 4th, Geoff worked VK6YA (OG89) at 0940 for another new square, and weak JAs were heard. There were strong Arabic R/T voices on the morning of the 6th and on the 7th, from 1200, he completed OSOs with ZS6WB, 3E, and 5AV with others heard.

On the 11th, there was: "The biggest ZS opening ever" following the appearance of ZS6PW at 1000 and by 1040 the band was full of very strong ZSs from most areas. Over 45 southern Africans were worked or heard and the best OSOs were with ZS2BE and ZS2OD (KF26), ZS4RP (KG30), ZS5OB and ZS5X (KG50), ZS2NR (KF37), ZS6LUX (KG56), ZR1L (JF96), A22BW (KG38) and ZS6AXI (KG33). There were more ZS openings on the 12th, 1200-1300, while the 14th brought QSOs with TR8CA, Z23JO and ZS6XJ till QRT time at 1400.

### 70MHz

Apart from comments from readers about a revised band plan for 70MHz, not a single report of any activity has been received this month, even though there were Cumulative sessions on 25 February and 11 March. The final session and the Fixed contest took place on 25 March, after the deadline, so hopefully there may be some reports for the June column?

### 144MHz

G1WYC uses an FT-726R giving 10W, with a 10-element Jaybeam Yagi 12m AGL. Steve found things rather quiet but did make QSOs with DJ6LV (JO31) and F6CGJ (IJ78) on 7 March, FC1MOZ (JN29) on the 16th and FC1EAN (JN06) on the 20th, the last being his best DX of the month at 674km.

G3IMV has pensioned off his well-used Nag 144 amplifier and now uses a Sagra 600. The original imports used a pair of 4X150 valves which is rather surprising, since for

years these have only been manufactured for raptacant purposes. The UK distributor replaces them with 4CX250Bs, those in John's being of Chinese manufacture. One kept flashing over and blowing the only fuse - in the power transformer primary circuit - so he has replaced them with genuine Elma ones and all seems to be working OK now.

With 427 squares worked, he has come to a grinding halt on the band but was hoping to contact GW0KZG/MM in some of the 'wet' squares via MS mode during his March and April voyages. He heard him calling CQ on 144.125MHz but wonders if Andy offset his BFO enough to detect anyone answering?

John Palfrey, G4XEN (NHM), operated in the Derby Club contest on 11 March, completing 104 contacts, and which boosted his table tally in an otherwise dull month. He reckons we must have at least one good aurora before summer before we "... settle down to some boring hours at the receiver waiting for Es DX to appear." The storms earlier this year damaged his KR400 rotator which seems to have lost its braking capacity. He hopes to repair or replace it when calmer weather allows.

G6HMK found conditions enhanced on 22 February, best DX being DK5DZ (JO42). Eta gave some points away in the contest on 3/4 March and worked her first GM of the year, GM4AFF (IO87). On 7 March, she had an incomplete OSO with EA1NV (IN73) at 1217, then had a proper one later at 1403. She operated in the Derby contest but remarked that activity gets less every year. Even so, she thoroughly enjoyed the event. The only auroral QSO the following day was with GM0HUO (FFE).

Darrell Mawhinney, G14KSD (DWN) was very pleased to work W5UN off the Moon at 0000UTC on 3 March. He reckons this is only the second EME OSO from G1, the first having been made some seven years ago. He thinks an auroral OSO with LY2BBB on 13 November last year may have been a G1/LY2 first, too. He found conditions rather flat in the 3/4 March contest, the best DX being ON4ASL/A (JO10). Conditions seemed better on the 15th and he worked F6FLB in Catalina, plus many G stations.

John Eden, GM0EXN (HLD), writing on 4 March, reported auroras from Dunnet Head every day from 25 February, but mostly very weak. He mentions that the British Astronomical Society is seeking information on radio auroras and that Leicester University has a large antenna array at Bower, a couple of miles from him. There is supposed to be a similar array somewhere in Sweden. If so, what information are they getting and where are any results

being published? Can anyone enlighten us?

At G3FPK, March produced little in the way of real DX. Conditions in the contest on the 3rd/4th were decidedly flat whenever I listened and at the end, the leading UK stations were giving serial numbers in the 600s. Activity seemed low; perhaps people are getting fed up with contests? I 'locked in' on the Derby event on the 11th and gave a few points away, but again thought activity was poor.

I discovered an aurora just before midnight on the 20th and worked GM4IPK (SLD); Andy told me he found the event at 2324 and that GB3LER and SK4MPI were not operational. The only other DX heard in south London were SM5BSZ and SM5DCX. Signals were quite good but few people were about.

I found another event on the 25th which probably started around 1500. The only stations worked were SM5DCX (JD89) at 1550 and GM0CLN (LTH) at 1555. I listened for some time to GM4IPK and G4KUX conducting tests to see what reflections they were getting from different directions; as far 'west' as 290 degrees. In fact, I was able to copy Andy wherever he was beaming, but Nick's signal never went auroral. Once again, activity seemed very poor.

I alerted John Nelson, GW4FRX (PWS), to this event and he worked a few OHs but none in new squares. I doubt I could have copied them with all the digital hash from the north. GM0EXN and GW4FRX telephoned me on the 26th about another aurora, but this was much weaker. I heard GM4IPK calling CQ at S3 and at 1726 called GM0EXN on CW on 144.251MHz, who was only S2.

#### 430MHz

G1WYC has a module for this band for his FT-726R again running 10W. Steve uses a 19-element Tonna Yagi on this band. He mentions a DSO with GI0GDP (ID74) on 16 March but otherwise found this band also very quiet.

G6HMK's antenna was stuck facing south for the 3/4 March contest, so that limited Eta's operation. However, she did work into SRY, IOW, PWS, DOR and BKS. The rotator was overhauled on the 16th and a CO call was answered by G1GEY (TWR). The only other reader to mention this band was G8YPY who worked FTANH on 17 March.

#### DEADLINES

That wraps it up for another month. Perhaps we may have some early Es to gloat over next time? Meantime, let's have some more entries for the Annual Table. The deadline for July is 28 May and for August it is 23 June.

## SWL

**BOB TREACHER BRS 32525**  
93 Elbarn Road, Eltham, London SE9 1QJ

Conditions during March had been quite reasonable, although some reports suggested that as we were about at the top of the sunspot cycle and at the spring equinox, things could have been better.

Some interesting DX had been reported, but there was little to make me sit up and take notice. Mention was made of S21U, a one-day expedition to Bangladesh, but those who heard the station commented on the very weak signal, probably because of the low power or poor antenna being used.

14MHz had probably provided the best conditions, with the band staying open quite late on some days. Many Stateside stations could be heard well into the evening. One callsign that stood out was JR4ISF/CEO (an unlikely combination) who appeared from Easter Island. Others worthy of note were PJ6/AA4OV, HK0FXX, LU1ZA, TL8PS, ZK1DD and 9L1EY. Several V51 stations had been heard from Namibia.

21MHz was good in parts, with a goodly share of the DX on offer. The Pacific had been reported in the shape of KX6EL and JH1MAD/JD1 (Ogasawara Is.). P29VMS had been heard operating from both Tröbriano and Louisiade Islands and JG3KUT/CEO had been noted. SD1LYNX was also heard. This was the Lynx DX Group's expedition to SO1 (there have only been a few four-letter suffixes that I can recall — for example HC1NDXC [...] and of course there was U5ARTEK and TG0FRACAPI). Other 21MHz DX included DL7ALC/HZ, J34YL, RB3MR/JT and N3CRH/TJ.

28MHz had been quite poor. TY1DX and FT5XA were perhaps the best reported, but others included A61AD, C56/G4LJA and 3B8FV.

The low bands had provided little real DX, but some of our LF stalwarts came up with these. On 7MHz: W9DCN/C6A, JA1BRK/DU1, TU4DH, ZD8PJ and 9Y4GA. On 3.5MHz: AP2KS, A92KS, CD6CD, EL2WK, J6LDC, TL8WD, YC0WWL and ZF2ND.

Brad Bradbury BRS1066 mentioned his participation in the BERU Contest. His loggings included C5, P29, VS6, ZD7, 5N, 5Z, 6Y and 8J, together with a good number of VK's and ZL's.

#### QSL RETURNS

Robert Small BRS8841 mentioned several good direct DSLs — FR5AI/G, V63AO and 5H1TW (Zanzibar Is.). Brad Bradbury noted two new oblast confirmations in the shape of

UI7K/UA9SFV (Obl.024) and UA3GDJ/UD2N (Obl.002) bringing his total to 167 from 181 heard.

#### UBA AGM

The UBA's 1990 General Meeting will be held on 26 May. The highlight will be a slide show by Einar LA1EE of the 3Y5X expedition to Bouvet Island. Jan DN6JG has asked me to give the event some publicity in Britain in the hope that some British amateurs will make the trip. Further details are provided with the UBA handout, the text of which is reproduced here.

#### DX NEWS

It is likely that Rotauma Island will be active again this month courtesy of VK2BCH. For prefix hunters, SI8MI (the SM part of Markei Reef) will be active from the end of May until early June. Nearer home, LA7DFA will sign JX7DFA on all bands emphasising CW operation until July 27. As mid-June approaches, Jan Mayen will be almost in constant daylight when operation on the low bands will be almost impossible. One which was in the rumour class at the time of writing was the possibility of KD7P/KH7 operating, mainly on CW, from Kure Island sometime in May. The special call CF25A was active until the middle of last month. Those who heard it will wish to know that it was aired by VE3XN to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Canadian flag. QSLs can be obtained from VE3XN. Finally in this section, Y90ANT will be active from Georg Forster Base on Antarctica for one year starting last month. DSL via Y21RD.

#### 50MHz

Some activity to report this month. Stations from Africa had been heard in the South East in March. 9L1US (ex J52US), ZS3SW (G8WNP) and many ZS's had been mentioned to your scribe in discussion with several 50MHz buffs.

However, we now wait in anticipation of the Sporadic-E season. With the increased European activity, this summer should indeed be the best so far. Since last year's Es season, stations from HB9, LX, DE, DN and DY are now active on the band. There were rumours that other administrations were to release the band in April, but only time will tell if they were April Fool Jokes!

#### FINALE

That's all for now. Please ensure that contributions for the July issue reach your scribe by Monday 23 May. I will be especially pleased to receive details of stations which have been active during May, together with any VHF news which might be available if we are blessed with some good tropo (what's that?) and an early start to the Es season.

# RSGB QSL BUREAU – MOVE COMPLETED



The completion of the move of the QSL Bureau to our Headquarters at Potters Bar takes place on 1 May with the transfer of the outgoing service.

There are two ways in which to assist the smooth running of the Bureau.

Firstly, ensure that your cards are sorted in the correct manner. That is alphabetical by prefix and by call area in the case of cards for the USA, with the proviso that all cards for a given country are sorted together, including the prefixes used for contests, DXpeditions and special events. Also remember that if a QSL Manager is involved the card goes to his own country, whereas cards for a reciprocal licensee go to his home call.

The second point is to use the IARU recommended card size, which is 5.5 by 3.5 inches. Larger cards have to be folded or, at best, arrive at their destination with damaged edges. We have also

found that having various sizes of card is a contributory factor in mis-sorting, and can cause packets to come to grief in transit. It would be appreciated if those in the QSL card printing trade could note this.

Some amateurs, especially the newly licensed, complain about delays. Cards are never deliberately held up - in fact the whole job is based on shifting the cards as quickly as possible to avoid a huge storage problem. The most common delay is in the addressee of a card waiting until he receives it through the bureau before responding. New licensees should be aware that it is quite normal to wait 6 months for the first cards to come back via the bureau system.

## THE RETIRING QSL BUREAU MANAGERS

The husband and wife team of Ted (G3DRN) and Aileen Allen have run

**Ted, G3DRN, and Aileen Allen pictured in the newly expanded RSGB HQ QSL Bureau.**

the RSGB QSL Bureau since they took over from Arthur Milne, G2MI, in 1977. Prior to that, Ted was a Sub-Manager for 15 years dealing with cards for G3R, S and T series, G3+2, G4+2, G5 and the Channel Islands. With the move of the Bureau to HQ, they are embarking on a well-earned retirement.

An RSGB member since 1942 and licensed 6 years later, Ted favours 7MHz cw operation and spent nearly ten years operating exclusively on cw. Prior to being employed by the Society, Ted was a Securicor radio operator, a salesman, and an office manager. Before that he was in the RAF.

## London to New York

Ted and Aileen have sorted some 2.5 million QSL cards each year for 12 years or enough cards to reach New York if laid end to end. The worst cards to sort are those which are ordinary picture postcards as these are frequently a different size or shape to the others. Amongst the occasional complaints, the Bureau has received many thank you notes. Often these are on little scraps of paper enclosed with a batch of cards. They are nonetheless much appreciated and help make the job much more worthwhile.

## Wedding photos

Some strange things have been sent to the Bureau over the years,

**A letter from Ted Allen ...**  
30 Bodnant Gardens,  
Wimbledon,  
London  
SW20 0UP

*Following the correspondence concerning the Bureau in Last Word earlier this year, may I express my appreciation of the many messages of support received from members, including one gentleman who telephoned me from the Shetlands.*

*I would also like to take the opportunity of thanking members for their messages of goodwill not only during the past twelve years when sending cards to the Bureau, but more recently in connection with my impending retirement. There are far too many for me to reply to individually.*

*Although, as in all walks of life, one sometimes encounters an S1 mentality hiding behind an S9 voice, there is ample evidence that the "Ham spirit" is very far from being dead, which augurs well for the hobby and for the RSGB.*

*Thanks are also due to the management and staff at Potters Bar for all their assistance, remembering also the manner in which Council Members and Committee Chairmen always handled correspondence from me. I'm very grateful.*  
**E G Allen, G3DRN.**

Including packages with Post Office Savings Stamps on, and cards each bearing a postage stamp. CB cards occasionally arrive as the Post Office tends to forward to Ted any loose QSL cards. Probably the most curious occurrence was receiving a bundle of wedding photographs, obviously put in the wrong envelope. Unfortunately, we shall never know what the proud parents thought on opening their daughter's wedding snaps only to find a batch of QSL cards! With some clever detective work, it was established that the photos had come from a particular radio club but there was no response to Ted's letter to the club.

## Retirement

Ted and Aileen have mixed feelings about retirement from a job which they have found satisfying for so many years. They will, however, appreciate the end of the late-night phone calls from members. They are also discovering parts of their hall and stairs which have not seen the light of day since the first QSL card sacks arrived. Ted is not giving up the Bureau entirely. He has been appointed QSL Manager for the GDN series. Oh, and the obvious question — does he QSL? He is (of course) the model QSLer and sends only one per each new county worked.

All QSL cards should now be sent to:

**RSGB QSL BUREAU  
PO BOX 1773  
POTTERS BAR  
HERTS  
EN6 3EP  
ENGLAND**

Please do not send any more cards to the old address in Wimbledon as they are likely to be delayed. No responsibility can be accepted for those which are wrongly addressed.



## ICS Electronics Limited

Unit V, Rudford Industrial Estate, Ford, Arundel, West Sussex. BN18 0BD  
Telephone 0903 731101 Facsimile 0903 731105

# DATA AND IMAGE TRANSMISSION

### MET-2 Geostationary Weather Satellite Receive System

ICS's MET-2 geostationary weather satellite receive system gives excellent images from either the European Meteosat or the American GOES satellites.

In Europe, updated weather pictures are available live and in incredible detail every half hour - directly on the screen of your IBM-PC(\*), Amiga or Atari computer.

This system is extremely easy to use, and the IBM-PC VGA graphics display clarity is simply stunning. Send for further details.

**MET-2 System: £599.95 plus VAT (£9.50 p + p)**



### AVT FAX/ SSTV Transceive System for the Commodore Amiga

This is a truly remarkable new system from AEA, which is likely to become a new world standard.

It caters for every Fax and SSTV mode known, as well as a host of new improved modes of its own.

Large chunks of a colour SSTV picture can be lost in the noise, yet the entire picture can still be recovered by the receiving station! If you own an Amiga computer and want the ultimate image transmission system, write for details.

**AVT System: £299.95 inc. VAT (£5.00 p + p)**



### PK-232 Multimode Terminal Unit

The PK-232MBX is undoubtedly the world's most popular terminal unit for use on HF. Its modem design is second to none, and the firmware has been refined through numerous upgrades. Future upgrades will continue to keep the PK-232 ahead of the competition. It covers Amtor, Packet, RTTY, Fax, ASCII, CW and Navtex. Software for the IBM-PC and Commodore 64 are included in the price. The PakMail mailbox upgrade is now standard equipment.

**PK-232MBX: £319.95 inc. VAT (£5.00 p + p)**



### PK-88 Packet Radio TNC

The PK-88 is a sister product to the PK-232, giving the same excellent performance, but on Packet only. It uses the same Host Mode command structure as the PK-232, and operates on HF as well as VHF. A PakMail mailbox is built in, and the strong metal enclosure has an excellent front panel status display. Easily the best value in Packet Radio only TNCs.

**PK-88: £139.95 inc. VAT (£5.00 p + p)**



### AMT-3 Amtor/RTTY Terminal Unit

This is a new product from ICS, which offers the same low cost entry to Amtor and RTTY on the HF bands as the PK-88 does to Packet Radio. Amtor is by far the best mode for HF data communication, and the AMT-3 provides all the features needed for superb results in one tiny package. It has a modem optimised for these modes, non-volatile configuration memory and superb front panel status and tuning indicators.

**AMT-3: £189.95 inc. VAT (£5.00 p + p)**



### MM-3 Morse Keyer

If you love CW, you'll love the MM-3!

For the advanced operator or contestor, the MM-3 provides 4,400 characters of storage in 20 memories with Lithium battery backup. Automatic serial number generation speeds up contest operation, and beacon mode permits ease of DXing on a quiet band.

For the newcomer to CW, multiple training modes and a real time QSO simulator take you all the way from zero to competent operation before ever having to have a live QSO. You can look forward to your debut on the air with complete confidence, and then use all of the MM-3's advanced features as you become more experienced. An RS-232 computer interface is provided.

**MM-3: £169.95 inc. VAT (£5.00 p + p)**



# TOPICS

PATHAWKER G3VA

## TAMING THE STATION COMPUTER

I must confess that I have never felt any great desire to install a computer as part of G3VA—but equally I recognise that by now this is a minority view regarded by the majority in much the same way as my personal preference for brass keys and copying Morse with a ball-point pen! For it is clear that the marriage of radio-communications and computers has been consummated in many amateur radio shacks — although not always without a few lovers' tiffs and tears in the process.

A useful eight-page article "Amateur Radio and Computers" by Wolfram Wagner ZS6KE (Radio-ZS, August 1988) was aimed at smoothing the way to happier marriages: "In our hobby very few technical innovations have gained ground as rapidly as the 'microcomputer' — the properties of these fascinating devices have cast a spell on an increasing number of radio amateurs" — as ZS6KE puts it. He outlines the differences between the 8-bit home computers (from the simple ZX80, ZX81 to the rather more complex BBC, Acorn, Commodore etc) which usually have some built-in programming, mostly in a reasonably standard version of BASIC and the 16-bit or 32-bit personal computers (IBM PC or PC-compatibles by other makers). The PC family have all the units and features of the home computers coupled with a general and more universal user level. (Fig 1) ZS6KE believes that the 'general' nature of the PC makes it a very powerful tool for the amateur but considers that it does require a certain amount of experience before a user becomes fully accustomed to just what can be done with it. In practice, the more complex versions of 8-bit home computers can perform many but not all of the functions that the 16-bit and 32-bit PCs provide.

Much of his article is concerned with the many ways in which either the "stand-alone PC" or the "PC connected to your station" can be used on a variety of tasks and the necessary interfaces. Such material is rather outside the scope of TT but what does seem worth quoting at some length is his section "Considerations in the shack" (including RFI suppression hints). He writes: "The most restrictive property for the use of any digital

electronics in a radio amateur's shack is the intense RFI these devices generate. This interference ranges from VLF right up to microwaves, and above as digital electronics uses higher and higher switching speeds. For this reason it is important to ensure that the device you acquire has some commercial guarantee: FCC number, FTZ number, BS 6527 etc. (In the UK, there is still no legal requirement that computers must meet BS 6527 EMC standard.)

"Such specifications indicate the radiation limits the unit is *supposed* to satisfy. In spite of this certificate, you will find most units still radiate more than the acceptable amount of noise and you have no other option but to use all your skill (or that of your friends or acquaintances) in suppressing the noise to an acceptable level. The following are some of the ways this can be tackled:

- (1) Provide a fully graded (BS/VDE/SABS etc) power-line suppressor (RFI filter) in the power cable of the computer.
- (2) Ensure that external units (printers, display screens, plotters) are also suppressed by a similar power-line suppressor.
- (3) Be very careful that the ground (or earth) on the different units do *not* form "earth loops" via the signal cables.
- (4) Try to place *all* the equipment in the shack on a common ground-plane (steel shelving, steel desk or copper foil) which is grounded to *one common ground* (your station earth if you have one).
- (5) In severe cases it may be necessary to suppress any power lines to your radio equipment (see (1)). This may also get rid of any TVI or telephone interference in your system.
- (6) You may also attempt to place ferrite ring suppressors on the coaxial cable feeder to your station and in some instances even up at the junction to the antenna to choke any RFI that travels up your feeder.

Fig 1. Basic structure of a microcomputer installation. ROM Read Only Memory. RAM Random Access Memory. CPU Central Processing Unit. Mass Storage Memory (external).

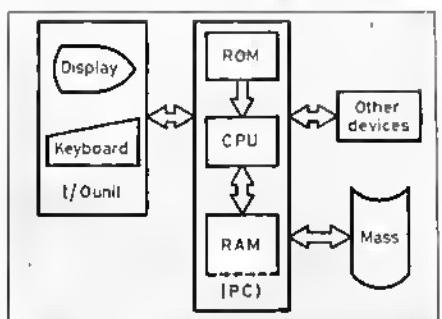
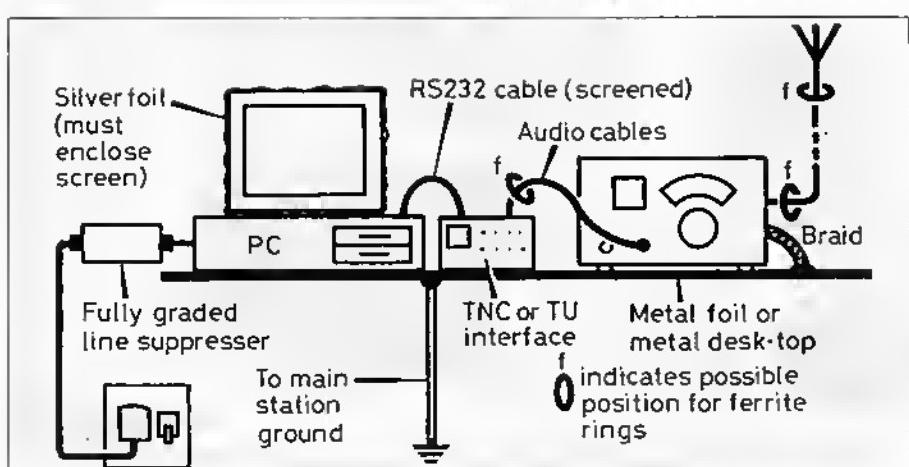


Fig 2. ZS6KE's suggested EMC measures to reduce RFI problems arising from digital equipment forming part of an amateur station.



"The easiest manner to find the source of the interference is to disconnect each unit in your shack until the interference vanishes. From personal experience I can say that display screens can be the cause of some very irritating interference. This can be suppressed by literally wrapping the case of the unit in foil (make sure that you don't cover ventilation holes). The more adventurous may place this screening inside the cabinet by glueing it to the inside of the cover with contact adhesive. "In homemade digital circuitry it is important to ensure that the board is constructed along the lines of good VHF/UHF designs using ground planes and plenty of decoupling capacitors on power lines. Fig 2 shows some measures that may be necessary (not guaranteed!) to suppress RFI from your computer."

## RSI, "KEYBOARD CRAMP" AND "BRASS ARM"

The past few years have seen growing concern in commerce, journalism and the Information Technology (IT) industry with an obscure and still controversial medical condition affecting some keyboard/VDU operators — the fact that cases have occurred in the computerised newsrooms of newspapers and broadcasters has ensured that this condition has been widely reported by the media. Commonly called RSI (repetitive strain injury) or "occupational overuse injury" or, by the medical profession, "upper limb disorders", it does appear to be the re-emergence of what many years ago was known as "telegrapher's cramp" or, more colloquially as "brass arm" that in the 1920s affected a small minority of professional line and radio telegraphists using up and down brass keys and a smaller number of teleprinter keyboard operators. In spite of the evidence that accumulated over many years of this medical problem, many doctors still refuse to accept that RSI really exists — but firms are being forced to take the condition more seriously since the award in an out-of-court settlement of £45,000 to a bank employee who spent much of her time using a computer keyboard under strain inducing conditions.

Telegrapher's cramp was no joke — in severe cases experienced operators lost completely the ability to manipulate a Morse key and, in its final stage, "telegraph operation becomes a matter for dread and the emotional repercussion may be such that the touch, sight or even memory of a telegraph instrument and its working may induce intense apprehension, tachycardia, tremors, hyperhidrosis or loss of emotional control" — to quote from a long, unpublished, monograph written in the late 1930s by Colonel H V Prynne, CBE, DSO, FRCS a retired Chief Medical Officer of the GPO, a typescript of which I recently unearthed in the Post Office Archives, London.

I recall from the 1940s a former marine Radio Officer then working as a civilian for Special Communications who was suffering from "brass arm" to the extent that he could only be allocated listening watches for clandestine stations that were no longer expected to come up on schedule. It had become virtually impossible for him to send readable Morse and he had become what was then known as a "bundle of nerves". Although there seems little evidence of amateurs using Morse keys or keyboards being affected by brass arm, it could well account for why some former CW enthusiasts decide to abandon the key for the microphone.

Recently, *The Independent on Sunday* (25 February 1990) devoted a whole page to RSI and a new document being issued by the Health and Safety Executive: "Work Related Upper Limb Disorders: A Guide to Prevention." This reflects advice from ergonomists, medical experts and representatives from trade unions and employers' bodies. It is suggested that the problem primarily

## SIMPLE RS-232C TO KEYING-LINE INTERFACE

John Swancara, WA6LOD in *QST* (February 1990) reports the use of a cheap and quick computer-to-keying line interface as follows: "While experimenting with my Tandy 1000 home computer and some ham code generation programs, I learned that the computer's RS-232C DTR line switched from +14 to -14V when the programs executed the code. In about one hour, with a few radio shack parts, I built the interface shown in Fig 3. It works great and easily keys my transceiver. I now send perfect CW!"

"When the Tandy 1000's +14/-14V DTR signal switches to -14V the optocoupler's LED turns on the output transistor, pulling the circuit's output line low. If you need a circuit that goes low on positive excursions of the input line, just reverse the 1N914 diode and the connections to pins 1 and 2 of the optocoupler. If keying your rig involves switching a higher voltage than the optocoupler can handle, you can control a DC relay with the

optocoupler and key the rig with the relay."

If you prefer an all-solid-state solution rather than using electromechanical relays, an article in the same February issue of *QST* describes "Simple Control-Signal Level Converters" on pages 24-27.

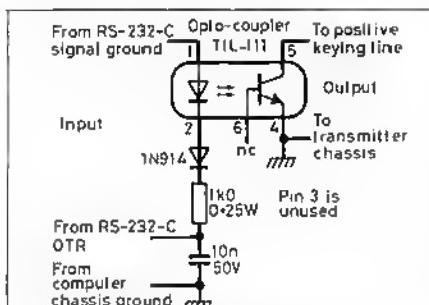


Fig 3. WA6LOD's RS-232-C-to-keying-line interface requires only four components on a piece of scrap copper-clad circuit board.

affects people who do relatively monotonous, repetitive work while in a fixed position; the risk factors appear to be bad working posture, high frequency of hand movements coupled often with a degree of forceful exertion and poorly organised work processes.

Col Prynne suggested that "Telegraphists Cramp is a disease of the central nervous system, and is the result of a weakening or breakdown of the cerebral controlling mechanism in consequence of strain upon a given set of muscles, characterised by visible spasm of hand or arm during the manipulation of the power of making the required co-ordinated movements. Before any cramp or spasm is apparent there may be a stage characterised by subjective symptoms only, where the operator feels pain or discomfort in the operating hand or arm." A feeling of stiffness or loss of control "as if the muscles would not do what was required of them" or undue apprehension was sometimes the first symptom.

In the 1920s, the GPO employed some 20,000 male and female land-line telegraphists sending and receiving telegrams at working speeds of around 25wpm. Col Prynne investigated some 313 cases that appeared in the years 1921-30 and considered an additional 147 cases that had been reported between 1905-1920. Of the 313 new cases, some 168 responded to treatment directed at re-establishing the confidence of the operator — often after a period of complete rest from telegraphy. He estimated that about 2 per cent of GPO telegraphists were affected at some time (many within two years of qualifying). He sought information from other countries. Several, including the USA (where brass keys were not commonly used), reported only negligible numbers of cases, but Norway replied that over 5 per cent of their operators suffered manipulative difficulties in the form of "telegraphists' cramp". With the phasing out of hand-Morse and the introduction of teleprinters, the number of cases in the GPO dropped dramatically but did not disappear entirely. The GPO authorities, however, (as apparent from correspondence in the archives) were anxious that if Col Prynne found a publisher for his monograph, all references to teleprinter-operator's cramp should be deleted!

Col Prynne clearly recognised that the condition could be produced by either physical or psychological causes. Yet it is only recently that modern RSI is not being written off as psychosomatic. This all adds up to an inducement for amateurs to ensure that their operating "environment" provides comfortable, relaxed operating conditions — and

(often held belief) radiate significantly more power on 3.5MHz than would say a similar dipole with an 80ft top fed with the same transmitter output power. Equally important is that such an 80ft dipole, with suitable ATU, can radiate very effectively on any frequency from about 1.8-30MHz (or higher), although the horizontal and vertical radiation patterns will differ.

Richard L Measures, AG6K in "A Balanced Balanced Antenna Tuner" (*QST*, February 1990, pp28-32) points out: "Now that we have nine amateur radio bands below 30MHz (not all harmonically related) an open-wire line, centre-fed-wire antenna system looks even more attractive than it did when such antennas first came into popular use in the 1930s when we had only five bands (all harmonically related) below 30MHz, viz 1.75, 3.5, 7, 14 and 28MHz". Taking advantage of this versatile system requires a box that will interface the 50ohms unbalanced output of today's transceivers to the highly variable impedance ( $Z$ ) of the balanced feed points of such multiband antennas."

He considers, however, that most of the contemporary "matches everything, balanced or unbalanced" antenna tuners produce only a semi-balanced output when used with a balanced load. This, he suggests, can result in a less than wonderful situation: "Antenna tuners are like shovels. It takes more than one kind of shovel to perform a variety of jobs effectively ... no single antenna tuner circuit can do every antenna-matching job extremely well. A balanced-load tuner should be designed — from the ground up — for the job it is intended to perform." He describes an ATU specifically designed for feeding open wire, ladder-type, transmission lines on a variety of frequency bands, stressing that this arrangement (Fig 5) cannot (or at least should not) be regarded as suitable for unbalanced loads such as a coaxial cable or for end-fed Marconi or Heriz antennas.

His tuner depends on a choke balun made from a length of coaxial cable wound on a plastic-pipe former. With a 3.5in diameter pipe, about 30ft of 50ohm cable should form an effective balun at frequencies between 1.8-30MHz. If 1.8MHz is not

## BALANCED ATU FEEDS OPEN-WIRE LINES

It has frequently pointed out that the radiating element of a doublet or dipole antenna fed by an open-wire transmission line does not itself have to be resonant length in order to radiate efficiently — always provided that the complete antenna system is brought into resonance by being correctly matched to the transmitter. The high SWR that can exist happily on open-wire, low-loss feeders (though not between the ATU and the transmitter) is demonstrable proof that very little of the energy reflected back down such a feeder (so setting up the SWR) is lost but subsequently is radiated from the element. With an effective ATU and open-wire feeder a 132ft centre-fed dipole does not (contrary to the still

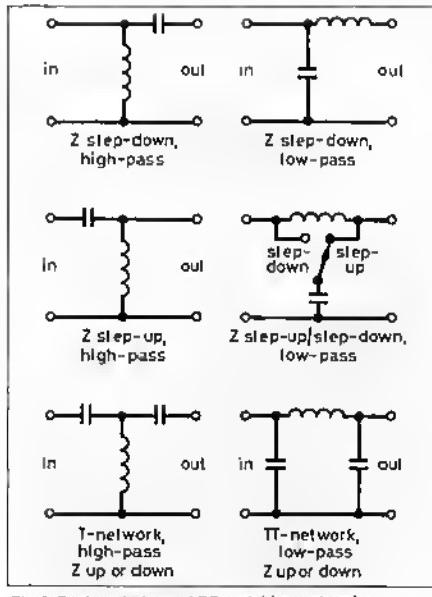


Fig 4. Basic unbalanced RF matching networks.

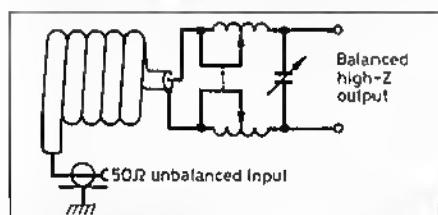


Fig 5. AG6K's carefully balanced ATU for leading multiband wire-doublet antenna via open-wire feeders. The ATU is capable of leading a wide range of reactive impedances but not intended for use with unbalanced feeders or end-fed antennas. Physical and electrical symmetry and balance should be maintained.

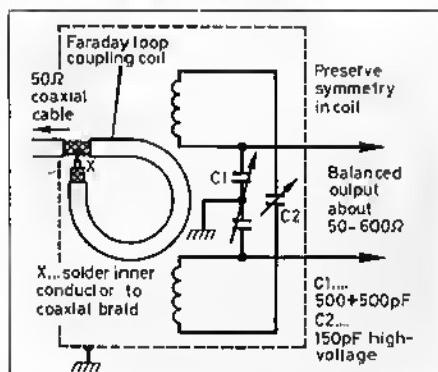


Fig 6. Low-cost balanced ATU which in the past has proved useful for feeding 300-ohm or 600-ohm matched balanced feeders on 14/21MHz with pi-network and Faraday-loop coupling coil.

required about 18ft of cable should suffice. The ends are fastened to the pipe using nylon cables. Solid dielectric cable is best for this application. Layout and components should be arranged to maintain good RF balance; good symmetry is important on the higher frequency band. Unless you have two identical roller-coaster inductors in your junk box, such a tuner will be quite costly to implement with new components although costs can be reduced if you can find a source of surplus MoD components etc. The variable inductors need to be driven in synchronism by one tuning shaft. A less flexible but lower cost unit could be made using tapped inductors with switched selection of the taps. An even cheaper arrangement which has been used at G3VA for feeding 300ohm folded dipoles on both 14 and 21MHz with a single split coil and pi-network is shown in Fig 6. This uses a Faraday loop type of balun which also helps reduce harmonic output.

## MORE ON FET POWER AMPLIFIERS

Recent T7 items on the use of low-cost audio and switching FETs as amplifiers capable of providing up to about 50 watts of RF output (as T7 February 1990, December 1989) have prompted Tim Wallford, G3PCJ to report on the results achieved in the past two years with two such amplifiers: one using IRF510 devices from 12V supplies; his preferred second method using VN88AFD devices from a 35V supply. He writes: "My first experiments were with the IRF510 because it was/is the fastest of this family of devices having low drain-source resistance ( $R_{ds(on)}$ ) and thus suitable for use from 12V supplies. With four of these devices in a parallel push-pull arrangement (Fig 7) I have obtained 50W pep on 3.5MHz with 1 watt of drive using a 12V supply. Parallel operation is possible with these devices and they are relatively destruction-proof! I do however recommend that the DC bias is arranged always to be applied after the antenna relay has connected the load; this is the purpose of the large value capacitors on the gate/bias lines. Broadband operation is possible using untuned toroidal transformers.

"This amplifier is suitable for 1.8 or 3.5MHz but not for 7MHz or higher-frequency bands. The layout is not too critical and the capacitor between the drains helps dramatically to improve the waveshape of the output. The gate bias voltage is adjusted to provide the best compromise between maximum output and minimum distortion (typically about 1A for all four devices). If the drain capacitor is omitted some (although much reduced) RF output is possible at 7MHz; it was this limitation that led me to use the VN88 series of devices in the amplifier shown in Fig 8; this is my current design for use up to 30MHz. The VN88 devices have a much higher  $R_{ds(on)}$  than the IRF510 and need a higher supply voltage. Both these types of devices are relatively inexpensive (about £1.20 per device) and I feel that it is unnecessary to incorporate any form of ALC in these amplifiers, provided that the output load is tuned up at low power or with a bridge that restricts the range of impedances presented to the amplifier. Good heat-sinking is very important since the FETs operate near to the limit of their power ratings. I have mounted both versions in tobacco tins with the heatsink on the outside; the tins form an excellent ground plane. The VN88 design dissipates rather more power than the IRF510 due to the device's higher  $R_{ds(on)}$ . The better heatflow properties of the VN88AFD in the TO220 package is to be preferred to the more commonly available VN88AF (all four VN88AFs blew on one occasion and were replaced by VN88AFDs).

"The VN88 amplifier is very similar to the IRF510 design except for the supply voltage and

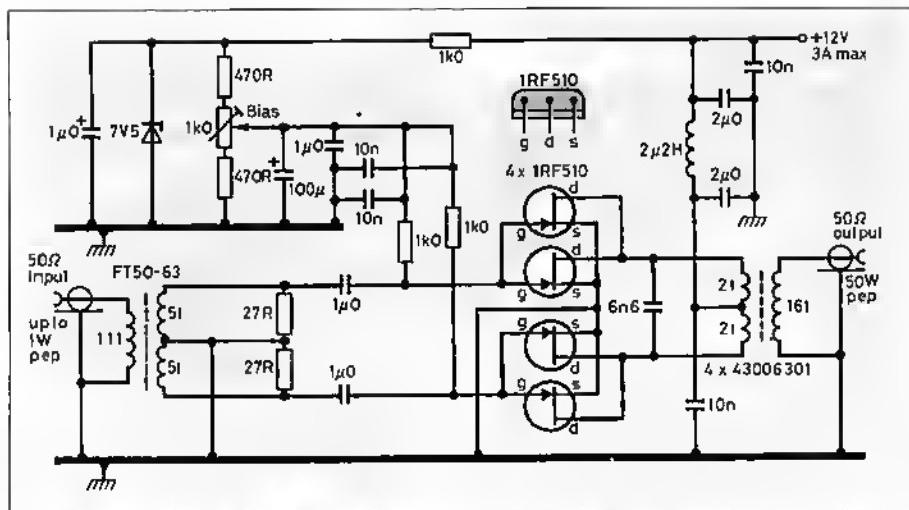


Fig 7. G3PCJ's broadband RF amplifier capable of providing 50-watts PEP output on 1.8/3.6MHz from a 12V supply. It uses four IRF510 devices in a parallel-pushpull configuration. Bias control set for about 1A (total) standing current.

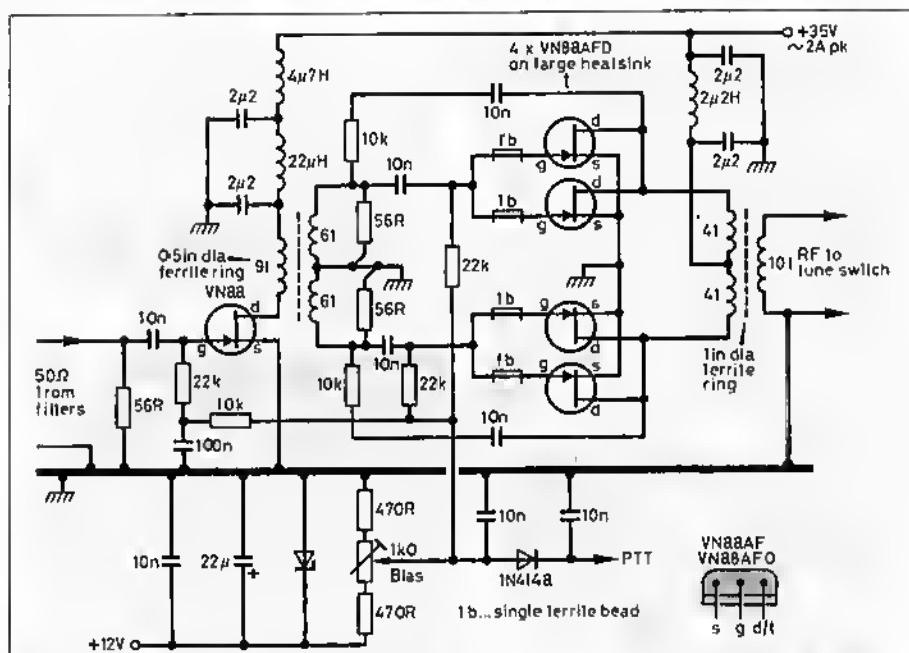


Fig 8. G3PCJ's "Mk II" FET amplifier capable of use to 30MHz. It provides about 50W PEP output from four VN88AF or (preferred) VN88AFD devices from 35V supply. Bias adjusted for a standing current of about 0.75A (total).

output transformer. Because the drain voltage of the VN88, when 'on', is about 10V, a supply of up to about 40V may be used while still keeping within the rated 80V  $V_{ds}$  limit. Since, in my case, I crammed both stages into one tin, stability was more critical than would otherwise have been the case; I found some negative feedback was required — but other constructors might find it possible to omit the 10k resistor/10nF capacitor between gate and drain. In this design, the diode to the PTT line kills the DC bias as soon as the switch is released, thus reducing the chance of damage when the antenna relay opens (I use a PTT switch between +12V and relays to earth.)

"Both amplifiers have been extensively used, but I now favour the VN88AFD design owing to its greater bandwidth. These devices will work to even higher frequencies than 30MHz provided that a low gate-driving-impedance is used to counter the high gate-input-capacitance. Incidentally, I do not believe that a highly-regulated supply is required since the devices must not be allowed to 'bottom' since this causes RF clipping, harmonics, splatter etc. Any residual ripple from a simple bridge-rectifier/smoothing-capacitor PSU is rejected by the RF output "transformer."

Tim Wallford, G3PCJ recognises that these

notes may be a little cryptic to those without a very great deal of previous experience of building FET amplifiers. He is more than willing to assist in suggesting sources of components, etc (Telephone Long Sutton (045824) 224 or (with SEA) Upton Bridge Farm, Long Sutton, Langport, Somerset).

## POT-POURRI

Ray Hill, GM0IJF apologises that the outline of his battery-charger (T7, January 1990, Fig 9) could have proved misleading since with the polarities shown it would switch 'on' instead of 'off' when the battery voltage rises. He has sent a full circuit diagram (Fig 9) of his charger which has served him well for a considerable time: "In Fig 9 the 33k resistors at the inputs of the 741 op-amp allow me to put the reference zener-diode and the feedback on to the non-inverting input of the 741. The 33k resistors and the 22μF capacitors were originally put in to get rid of picked-up noise, which seemed rather bad in my case."

NTT, the Japanese telephone company, has stopped using lithium rechargeable batteries in mobile radiotelephones after an accident which injured a user, following a short-circuited battery. Firms in this field are expected to stick to nickel-

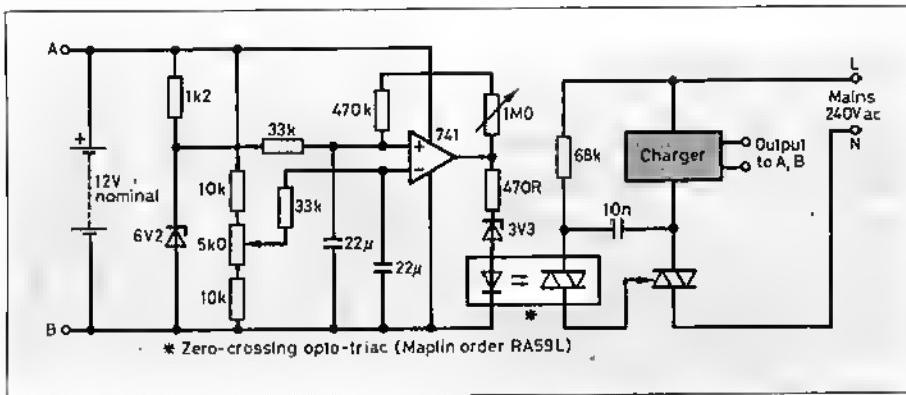


Fig 9. Circuit details (with corrections) of GM6IJF's lead-acid battery charger controller (see January 77, p35).

cadmium rechargeables in the near future — noted in *ABU Technical Review* (January 1990).

A *QST* article points out that when using a vacuum-variable-capacitor it is important to realize that the maximum RF-voltage rating at 30MHz is usually only 60 per cent of the rating for DC or 60Hz AC peak-voltage rating. Thus a 5kV DC/60Hz rating is roughly equivalent to a 3kV peak RF rating. Used or surplus vacuum capacitors need to be checked before use since they may have developed an air leak that renders them useless.

G3KSU is concerned that amateurs should be at least extremely circumspect in considering promotional material and advertisements for an American "automatic antenna matcher" (priced at almost \$500 for a 150W rating) which, in effect, seems to be based on using a dummy load to bring the transmitter SWR down with only a small proportion of the power diverted into a non-resonant short antenna. Remember the old tag "let the buyer beware" and study the explanations carefully.

## BOUNCING BEAUTIFUL RF SINE WAVES

The long-term future of amateur radio clearly depends on arousing and maintaining the interest of young people in the art and craft of radio communication — something that at present we seem to be failing to do. We need, perhaps, to think more carefully about just why the hobby (or specific parts of it) has been able to retain the interest of so many of us for so many years. In *QST*, Eric Nichols, KL7AJ puts forward an individualistic view that may not be so far off the beam:

"Just about my entire career, as a broadcast engineer and active amateur, has been devoted to the generation of RF energy. I can think of little else I'd rather do. And yet I have discovered that most of the people who do what I do are at least a generation older than I am... Good RF engineers are almost impossible to find. Industry is wondering where the next crop of technicians and engineers will come from."

"Why has this discipline of radio — at one time the very heart of electronic technology — come to the point where people consider it an arcane science? I have been forced to consider what first attracted me to radio during my formative years. I liked radio because it was *aesthetically* appealing, twas not nearly as impressed by the capabilities of radio as by the very nature of radio. Radio is great, not because of what it does, but because of what it is. Nobody buys an original Da Vinci painting to cover a hole in the wall. By the same token there are other means of communication that are more efficient than bouncing signals off the ionosphere; but the very fact that we can bounce signals off the ionosphere makes it worth the effort. 'Maxwell's equations appeal to the body, soul and spirit. Sine waves are veritable works of art. Antenna radiation patterns are beautiful.' It is incumbent upon radio initiates to convey the mystique and aesthetic

aspects of our hobby to newcomers. To fail to do so is to doom our hobby and the radio profession to the status of a lost art."

It is apposite to recall that "PP" Eckersley, (G)200, the first Chief Engineer of the BBC (1923-29) and a Vice-President of the RSGB, once admitted that his attachment to "wireless" as a schoolboy from 1906 onwards was, at least initially, an emotional one; brought about by his delight in the then colourful artefacts — the bright green coils, the black ebonite panels, the brass switches and Morse keys, the crackle of the spark coils. This was rather than the deeper scientific interest of his brother T L Eckersley who became an outstanding research physicist and unravelled many of the mysteries of HF propagation.

## LOW-POWER 12V-TO-30V DC/DC CONVERTER

By using a 555 IC "chopper" working at about 100kHz and a voltage multiplying diode rectifier arrangement, it is possible to build a simple converter (Fig 10) providing a stabilized 30V DC output at about 30-40mA when powered from a 12V car battery. This design comes from the February 1990 issue of *Electronics Australia* as a means of powering an EA 144MHz 1-watt transmitter (November 1989) from a single 12V source. (In this equipment the 30V line is required only for the LM351/LM308 audio amplifier, the RF circuits being fed directly from 12V or, in the case of the VFO, from a regulated 5V.) It is stated that the arrangement of Fig 10 can deliver up to about 13mA from an 11V supply, increasing to 28mA at 12V and 43mA at 13V.

The solid-state inverter and/or switched mode PSU is today the accepted method of powering equipment from a variety of sources — AC mains, low-voltage DC — to provide almost any required output voltages and powers. In this respect, solid-state technology has taken over completely from former mechanical conversion techniques that today have lapsed into history, but were in

common use up to the mid-1950s. For car radio receivers and low-power "suitcase" transmitter-receivers, the 6V and 12V "vibrator units" provided chopper frequencies of around 100Hz and could in fact be surprisingly efficient (up to 90 per cent or so conversion efficiency). Unfortunately vibrators suffered from limited lifespan, mainly because the contact points tended to become pitted and to stick — a problem that could sometimes be overcome by subjecting them to a sharp tap on switch-on. Repair was sometimes possible by filing the points and adjusting the spring tension and gap, but such measures usually afforded only temporary relief.

It is worth remembering that for all equipment operating at low input voltages, the main on/off switch has to carry a relatively high current, and any resistance introduced by dirt or oxidation, or caused by arcing, can drastically reduce the efficiency of the unit. This applies to solid state inverters as well as those relying on mechanical devices such as vibrators. Where powers of from about 30-watts upwards were needed for portable or mobile transmitters, the usual solution was a rotary conversion machine. This could be a rotary transformer (ie dynamotor) with a single armature, wound with two separate windings, each connected to a commutator at either end, and excited by a common field system. Any DC ratio could be obtained with a suitable ratio of turns in the windings, but overall efficiencies were lower than for vibrators, often delivering from 50 to 500 watts with overall efficiencies ranging from about 50 to 60 per cent.

Whereas a rotary transformer (dynamotor) is a DC to DC device, a rotary converter converts DC to AC and vice versa. It has a single armature winding, from which tappings are connected to slip-rings at the AC end of the machine and to a commutator at the DC end. The AC/DC transformation ratio is fixed by the number of phases and is equal to root-2 for a single phase machine. The motor generator was perhaps the most versatile of the rotary converting machines, and may still be used for high power installations. It consists of a motor driving a separate generator on a common shaft: it is possible to design machines for any voltage ratio, DC to AC, AC to DC, or to change AC from one frequency and voltage to another frequency and voltage, at virtually any power.

## DR PAUL EISLER — "MR PCB"

It has been said that every industry has its visionaries, but their ideas, like wine, must be given time to mature. True enough, but unfortunately one result is that many of the great inventors and innovators never receive the public recognition they deserve for their pioneering work. One such is Dr Paul Eisler who in 1943 was the first person to patent the now almost universal form of printed circuit board — an idea he had pursued for years

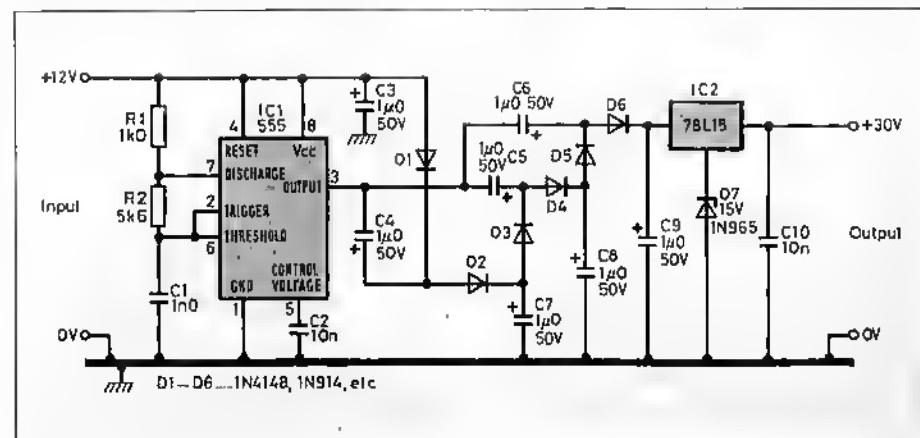


Fig 10. Low-power 12V-to-30V DC/DC converter using 555 IC "chopper".

but which remained little used for more than a decade — despite the efforts of John Sargrove in the immediate post war period to advocate the use of printed wiring for simple, low cost radio receivers for developing countries. Walter Frolic, GOCARO draws attention to Paul Eisler's recently published *My Life with the Printed Circuit* (Associated University Presses, London 1989, 170pp, hard covers £13.95).

Austrian born Paul Eisler came to England in 1936 at the age of 29 years becoming, after the Anschluss in effect, a Jewish refugee. Even while working in Austria, he had become convinced that it should be possible to replace wiring in radio receivers with printed circuits, but like so many other inventors, could not get commercial backing for his ideas. In the UK, he joined Oscar Deutsch's Odeon Theatres as an "ideas man" but in 1940 was, for a time, interned as an enemy alien. When released he set to work on printed circuits in an attic flat. To demonstrate the principles he built a first printed circuit radio receiver which still exists, but was also convinced that PCBs could find application for military applications. The Americans took up the PCB as the basis for the first truly microminiature (Tinkertoy) device, an anti-aircraft proximity fuse that in 1944 enabled many hundreds of V1 "flying bombs" to be shot down before reaching London. With the coming of peace, Paul Eisler tried to interest the mass consumer product industry. It was not until about the mid-1950s that PCBs eventually took off. Even then the path of the inventor was not smooth. Boardroom clashes and quarrels with Government ministries led to resignations. Eisler, at 82, is still an active inventor, with more than hundred patents to his credit.

### EXTRA DIODES PROVIDE IMPROVED VOLTAGE-DOUBLER

Dick Rollema, PA0SE in his "Reflecties door PA0SE11 column (*Electron*, p122) draws attention to an improved voltage doubling circuit that offers better regulation and less pronounced ripple to the more conventional cascade-type voltage doubler (77, November 1989). This was originally described by the Swiss engineer TH Gisper in *Elektronica* 89/22. With this arrangement, the full voltage

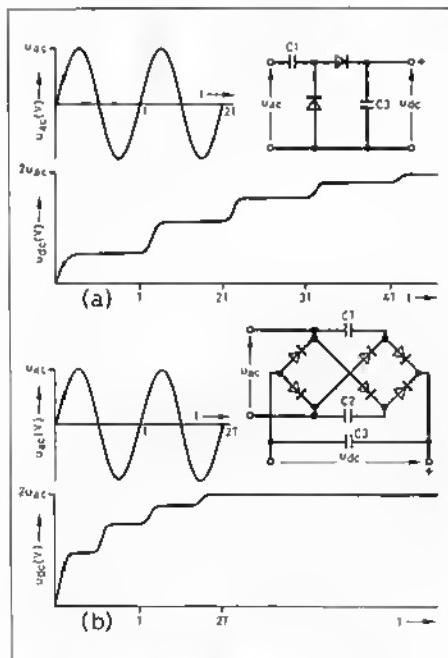


Fig 11. (a) Conventional cascode-type (common terminal) voltage-doubler. (b) Improved arrangement using extra diodes in a bridge-type (symmetrical) arrangement as originally described by a Swiss engineer.

### CURRENT SENSING LED

Indicator lamps, whether filament or LED, are widely used to indicate when voltage is being applied to an appliance; but very few are arranged to sense whether current is being drawn by the load. A contribution by R Love in the "Circuit & Design Ideas" column of *Electronics Australia* (February 1990, p68) shows a simple way of providing an LED current sensor: Fig 13.

Operation is straightforward. When current is being drawn from the device socket, current flows through the silicon diodes, D1 to D3 during the positive half-cycles of the AC mains input, providing a voltage drop of approximately 0.7V per diode. With the three diodes in series this results in a pulsed DC voltage of about 2.1V across the LED through a 10Ω resistor to limit the current through the LED to about 40mA peak on positive cycles half cycles. The fourth diode, D4, shunts the LED during negative half cycles, protecting it from damage while at the same time providing a further current path for the appliance.

Sensitivity of the circuit is determined by the

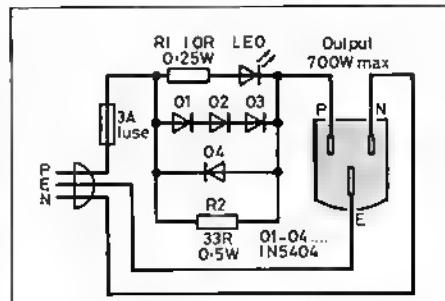


Fig 13. Current-sensing LED Indicator for mains-powered appliances.

value of R2 which also "prevents operation due to RFI suppressor capacitors or transformer primary windings in some loads." Since the circuit operates at the AC mains potential, all components should be totally enclosed in a suitable, insulated box, to ensure that no contact can be made by the user with mains potentials.

output is built up over a single 50Hz cycle instead of the two cycles of the conventional cascade voltage doubler: see Fig 11(b). With an input of 240Vac, the unloaded peak DC output is approximately 675V. Regulation is governed by the value of the electrolytic capacitors, although the values can in practice be lower than for the conventional doubler.

### D/F GROUND-WAVE HF SIGNALS

In the April 77 brief mention was made of the mobile D/F vehicles used by the German Funkabwehr in their attempts to trace clandestine transmitters that operated during 1940-45 in virtually all of the occupied countries of Europe.

In Germany, the Telefunken Company was encouraged to develop a relatively high performance, battery operated direction finder, type P57N. This was in production from 1935 until

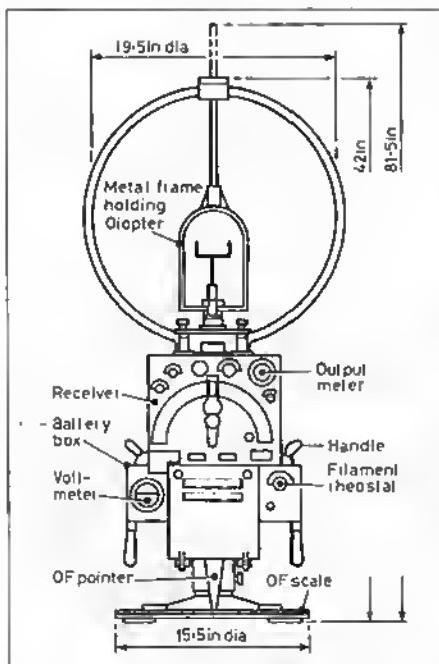


Fig 12. The Telefunken P57N "portable" HF direction-finder as produced from 1935 to 1942. This equipment was widely used in wooden-sided 'delivery' vans by the Funkabwehr in their pursuit of the wartime clandestine radios in occupied countries.

1942. Although described as "portable", the complete unit, when packed in a special box and with canvas cases for the tripod used in the open air, weighed what must have been a back breaking 192lb (87kg)! The P57N (Fig 12) had a six-valve battery superhet receiver with three interchangeable coil assemblies covering 3-6, 6-12 and 10-20MHz. Mounted above the receiver was a 50cm diameter loop and an auxiliary (sense) rod antenna that extended a further one metre above the top of the loop. When set up in the open air, the bearing scale was orientated optically using a "diopter" sighting device similar in principle to those used on prismatic compasses.

For Funkabwehr operations the P57N was installed in a wooden framed van and could be used stationary or on the move. It was intended for use on ground wave signals at distances up to 30km from the transmitter, giving reasonably accurate bearings when well sited, but was subject to errors when used in towns. The P57N was described in *Wireless Direction Finding* by Major R Keen who was later responsible for engineering the D/F network established by the Radio Security Service (MI8c). Even in 1938, he showed a clear understanding of the difficulty of quickly locating clandestine transmitters, when he wrote: "The response of a closed-loop D/F in a city street to the radiation from a horizontal aerial on a 100ft high building some streets away is likely to display 'aeroplane effect' in its most virulent form with excessive errors. (Aeroplane effect is experienced where an abnormally polarized wave is radiated from the trailing aerial of an aeroplane; when arriving at a D/F station with an angle of incidence less than 90° can produce errors which vary from 0° to 90° depending on the degree of polarization.) The only method of locating such an aerial — after its approximate position has been found by long-range bearing using a D/F that is not susceptible to polarization error — is by averaging of a very large number of bearings using a portable loop. In the final stages of such a search, the D/F may be made up in suitcase form and taken to the roofs of buildings or to any point from which it seems likely that a bearing can be obtained... Ground-ray D/F in city streets may also be affected by poor signal-to-noise ratio in certain areas, due to the attenuation of the signal in its passage over and through the semi-conducting masses in its path. SNR is, on the other hand, maintained at a high level and for greater distances over the sea, or well clear of the earth's surface."

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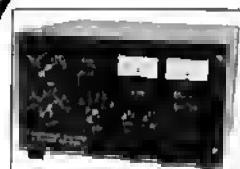
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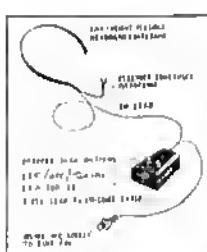
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# The G4WIM dual-bander

## PART 1

In this three-part series, Tim Forrester, G4WIM, describes a multimode transceiver for 50 and 70MHz which has all the 'bells and whistles' of commercial equipment.

### INTRODUCTION

I have always liked operating on 70MHz, especially during contests. During the early 'seventies I took part in a number of contests from the South Lake District area using the callsign G3NIN (the callsign of Blackpool radio club; my own call was G8GIW at that time). The contests provided me with an opportunity to operate on 70MHz and experience at first hand the excellent propagation qualities of what was then the lowest VHF band available.

Many times since operating in those contests I had considered building a multimode radio especially for 70MHz. However, until quite recently I had never been able to justify the time and effort involved in the design of a radio which would only cover one band, was restricted to Class A stations and, due to the relatively low level of activity,

might not get the use it would deserve. Ex-PMR equipment was available, but I really wanted all the 'bells and whistles' of a Japanese radio. Of course, there is no such thing as a Kenwood or Icom for amateur 70MHz use (at least to my knowledge).

Transverters were considered and some designs were investigated and tried, but I was never happy with either the performance or the lack of convenience when changing from band to band.

Thanks to the efforts of the RSGB we were 'given' 50MHz, and Class B stations were to be allowed to operate on both 50 and 70MHz. These two events immediately stirred me into action. It occurred to me that it would be fairly easy to design a radio which would cover both bands, and that the level of activity on 70MHz would no doubt increase. These changes of circumstances made

the effort worthwhile and I set about deciding just what this radio was going to do.

After some thought and looking at what commercial radios had to offer, I compiled a list of desirable features and decided that the radio must meet as many of them as possible if I was to be happy with the finished project. The list below was the 'target' specification for the G4WIM dual-bander project.

- Full coverage of both 50 and 70MHz
- Mains or 12V powered
- 10W output (very clean!)
- All-mode (FM, CW, USB, LSB)
- Able to work crossband (simplex)
- 10Hz synthesizer to feel like a VFO radio
- 'Bells and whistles' (scanning, memories etc)
- Very good receiver

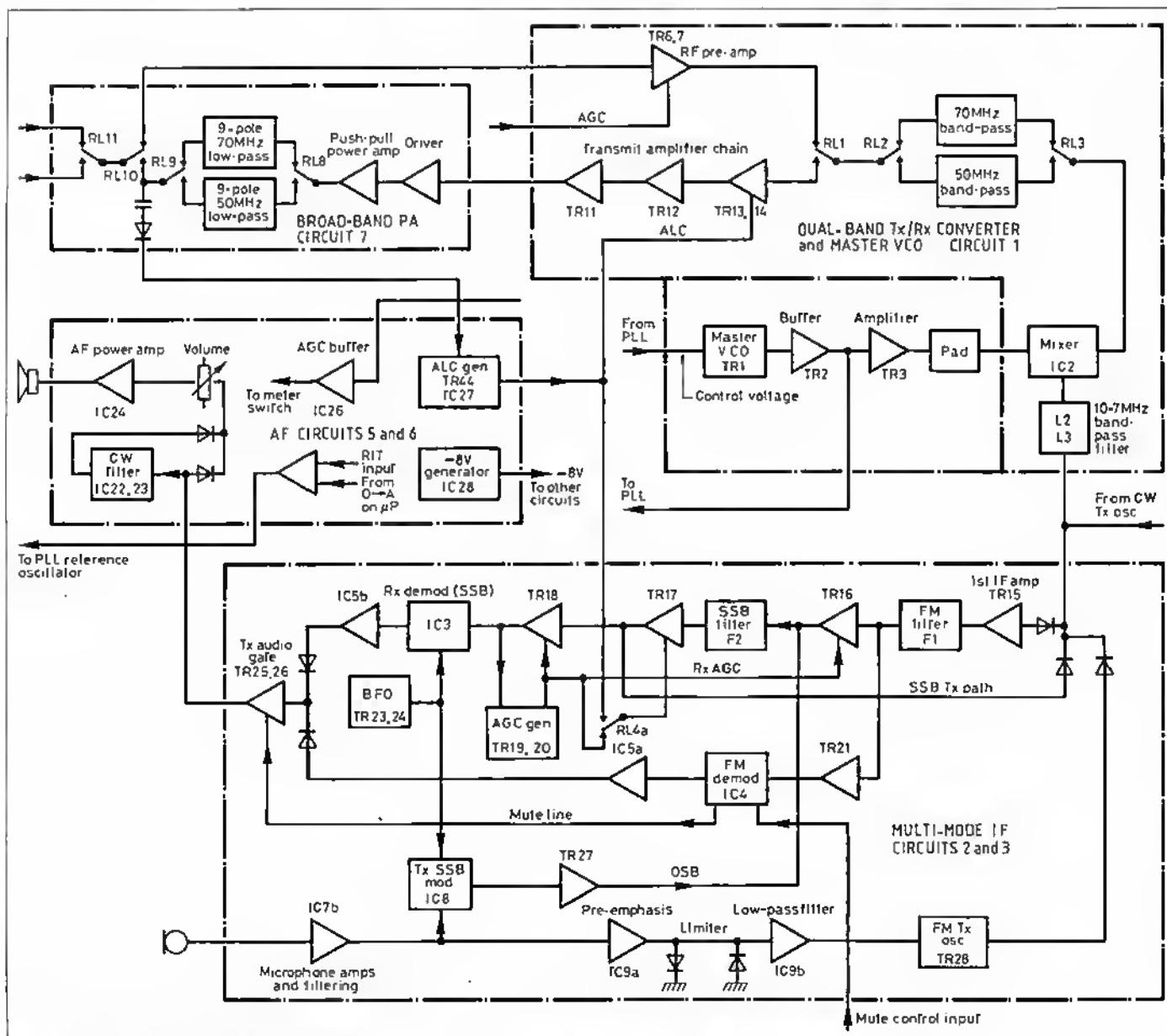


Fig 1. Block diagram showing the dual-band TX/RX converter and master VCO, the multimode IF, the AF circuits and the broadband PA.

## DUAL-BAND TRANSCEIVER

- Easy to align (given the complexity of the project)
- Use readily available components
- As reliable as possible
- Look as professional as possible
- Easy to use

Reading the list above seems like a specification for a commercial multiband radio! Indeed, that was just what I hoped to eventually produce, and I am pleased to say all the criteria above were met - in fact several others were added along the way.

Since this radio was completed (mid-1986) and this article written, I have built another transceiver (this time for 1.3GHz) using many of the sub-assemblies used in this project, and have found them to be very repeatable. Also, another fellow amateur is copying the designs for his own use, and therefore I hope there will be no major problems for anyone wishing to build this project.

To give some idea of its complexity, the block diagrams (Figs 1 and 2) show the overall operation of the transceiver. There is nothing particularly novel in the method of operation or in the actual circuitry, which I hope should help the design to be readily repeatable.

Do not be deterred by the apparent complexity of this project; just treat it as a number of modestly sized projects which just happen to fit together into a dual-band multimode radio! Certainly, the effort involved is very much worth it, as the feeling of achievement and pride has to be experienced, and it really makes a good talking point 'on the air'.

### BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE DESIGN

The radio is a single-conversion superheterodyne on SSB and CW, with a first IF of 10.7MHz. On FM receive there is a second IF of 100kHz. The local oscillator runs at circa 60MHz, and is used on the high side for 50MHz and the low side for 70MHz. This approach avoids the need for the LO to cover a 20MHz band. All the RF selectivity on transmit is provided by a pair of 'block' filters tuned to the



Front view of the G4WLM dual-bander.

desired band, and switched in as required. To ensure a good noise figure on receive there is a tuned-input, low-noise RF amplifier using a BF981 MOSFET.

The IF stages use discrete components, rather than the usual Plessey SL600 series of devices. This ensures that the AGC and ALC characteristics can be accurately tailored, and should exhibit no funny squeaks or pops as sometimes can occur with audio-derived systems. Plessey double-balanced modulators are used to both modulate and demodulate on SSB and CW, as they offer very good carrier balance with no adjustment being necessary.

The local oscillator on 60MHz is probably the most complex, as it uses a total of three PLLs to achieve 100Hz resolution, followed by a 10Hz interpolation from a D-to-A converter. A great

deal of time and effort was put into designing the LO to have a very low level of phase noise, a very important factor given the overall performance of the radio.

The transmit amplifier chain uses readily available discrete transistors, culminating in a push-pull power amplifier using a pair of BLY83 transistors. The power amplifier is followed by a nine-pole low-pass filter which heavily attenuates any unwanted harmonic energy generated by the PA.

The synthesizer and frequency readout are controlled by a 6805 microprocessor, which also provides all the other 'bells and whistles' associated with commercial radios.

The CW filter is a tunable switched-capacitor filter operating on the audio directly.

In the following sections I will not be describing the operation of each component, as this would

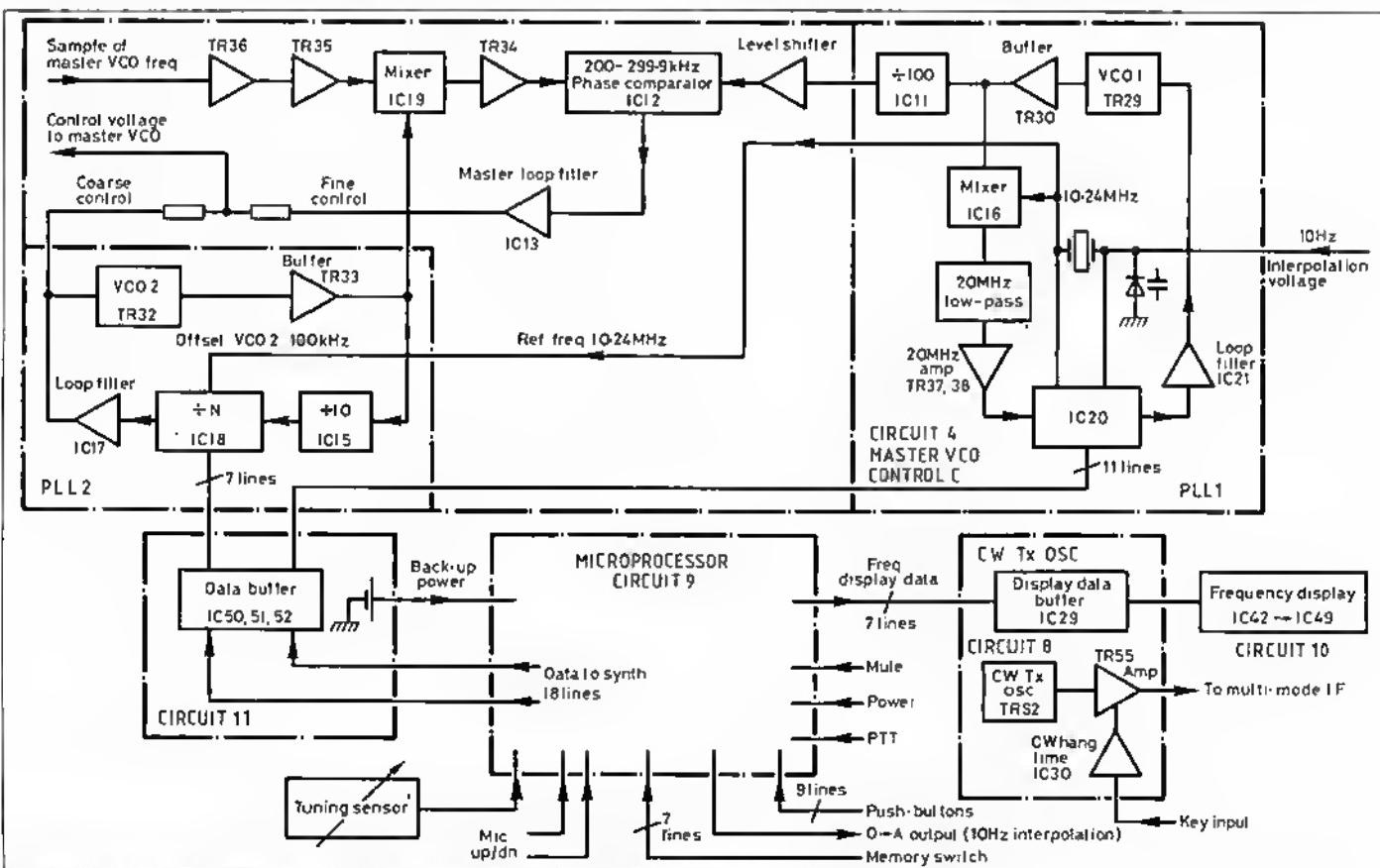


Fig 2. Block diagram showing the master VCO control circuit, microprocessor circuit and data buffer and the CW TX oscillator.

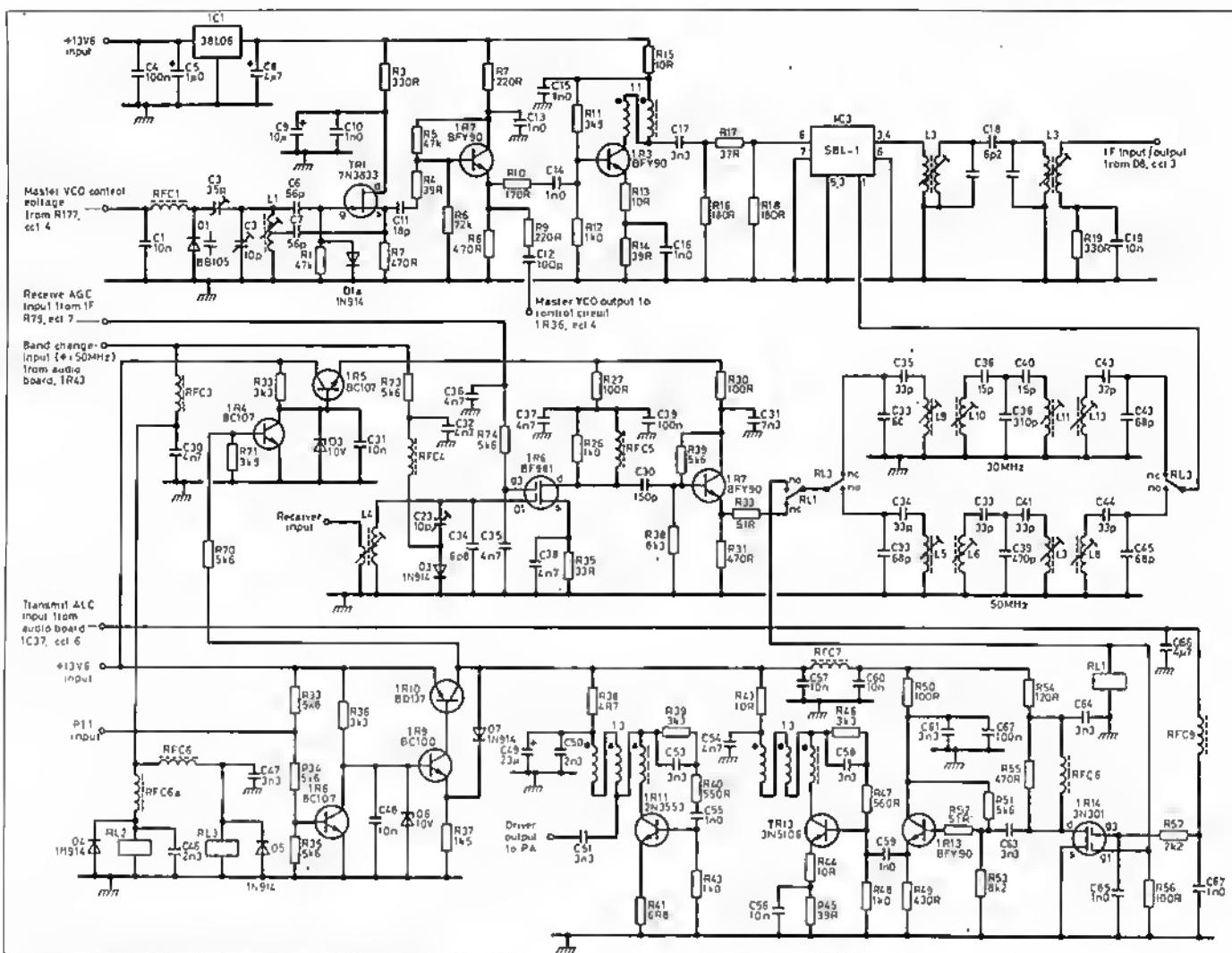


Fig 3. Dual-band TX/RX converter and master VCO (Circuit 1).

take too long and probably be counter-productive. Instead I am going to describe the operation of each part of the circuit down to IC level, and hope this will be a good compromise, bearing in mind its complexity.

## DUAL-BAND TRANSMIT/RECEIVE AND MASTER VCO

This part of the design (Fig 3) is probably the most conventional, in as much as it uses broadband techniques on both the transmit and receive converters, with the bulk of the selectivity being provided by two bandpass filters which are selected as required.

On transmit the incoming IF signal on 10.7MHz is first passed through a 10.7MHz bandpass filter formed by L2 and L3. This is to ensure that any harmonic content of the IF signal is attenuated, thus reducing the possibility of unwanted mixer products being produced and subsequently amplified in the succeeding broadband amplifiers.

IC2 is a standard double-balanced mixer, which up-converts the IF signal to either 70MHz or 50MHz, depending upon the frequency of the master VCO.

If the 50MHz band is selected, then the IF signal is mixed with a local oscillator signal in the range 60.7MHz to 62.69999MHz. This represents coverage from 50 to 51.99999MHz in 10Hz steps. The resolution of the phase-locked master VCO is described later.

Likewise, if the 70MHz band is selected, then the IF signal is mixed with a local oscillator signal in the range 59.3MHz to 59.79999MHz. This again

represents coverage from 70 to 70.49999MHz in 10Hz steps.

As can be seen from the above figures, to cover both the 70 and 50MHz bands, the first local oscillator has only to cover 59.3 to 60.7MHz. This is easily accomplished using one VCO formed by TR1, 2 and 3.

If 70 or 50MHz is selected, then the appropriate bandpass filter is selected by RL2 and RL3. Both of these relays are under microprocessor control to enable split-band operation and dual-band scanning functions.

RL1 selects either the RF preamp on receive or the broadband amplifier on transmit.

On receive the incoming signal is routed to TR6, via the aerial selection and aerial changeover relay in the broadband PA unit. The input to TR6 is a tuned circuit comprising L4 and C24, which can be resonated to 70MHz by adjusting L4. If 50MHz is selected then the band change (BC) line goes high and causes D3 to conduct, effectively connecting C23 in parallel with C24. Adjusting C23 then enables the input tuned circuit to be resonated at 50MHz, thus maintaining a good noise figure on both bands.

The drain load of TR6, which sets the gain of the preamp, is defined by R26 and RFC5. This combination of resistance and inductance was carefully chosen to provide approximately 12dB of gain on both bands. To prevent overloading of subsequent stages, automatic gain control (AGC) from the IF is applied to gate 2. TR7 serves as a unity gain buffer to convert the high drain impedance of TR6 down to approximately 50Ω to drive the selected bandpass filter. This filter is

necessary to remove the image response of the receiver which would occur 21.4MHz away from the desired frequency.

On transmit the signal from IC2 is immediately filtered in the selected bandpass filter to ensure that the signal is as pure as possible right from the start. After the transmit signal has passed through the filter it is amplified in TR14. This stage is similar to the RF preamp, but this time has automatic level control (ALC) applied to gate 2. The amount of ALC applied is determined by the level of output power and the setting of the RF power control on the front panel. ALC is used in all modes to reduce the possibility of overdriving later stages.

TR12 and TR11 are Class A stages with negative feedback to maintain a very low level of signal distortion, and are both fitted with clip-on heatsinks to dissipate the heat generated in them. TR11 produces only 100mW output, but with third-order intermodulation distortion of -45dB. This figure is quite acceptable for a driver stage in amateur equipment, but could be improved by using even more powerful devices on a higher supply rail with still more negative feedback.

TR5 and D2 form a simple voltage regulator for the RF stages which can be turned off while on transmit. When the radio is on transmit, the PTT line is grounded, which causes TR8 to turn off, thus letting TR9 and TR10 operate as a voltage regulator for the transmit driver stages. As a consequence of the transmit supply appearing, TR4 is forced into conduction, so switching the power off to the RF stages.

(Part 2 of this article will appear next month)



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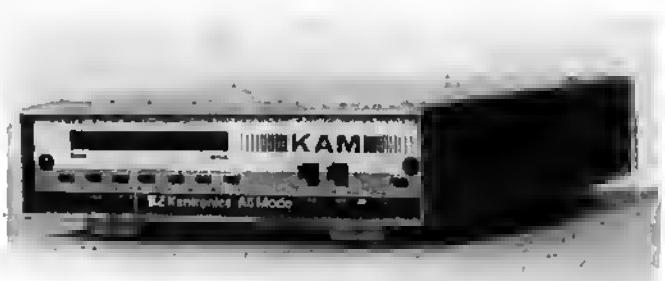
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# Controlled feeder radiation

**B. Sykes, G2HCG, shows how an antenna's polar diagram can be improved by controlling the radiation from its feeder.**

The use of a balun to feed balanced antennas with coaxial feeder has always been a controversial point, the usual comment being — "it works all right without one, so why should I bother". The two vital uses of a balun are to ensure that the polar diagram of the antenna is as planned, and to prevent interference pick-up on the feeder, or radiation from it.

## INTERFERENCE PICK-UP

The advent of the computer in the shack with its high hash level makes the latter point even more important, and here the difference in hash pick up on the feeder is very noticeable when a coaxial antenna feeder is properly terminated with a balun.

## POLAR DIAGRAM

Control of the polar diagram of the antenna is not perhaps so noticeable, but it is very important to know the areas of the world covered by the antenna system and perhaps even more important to know the areas rejected by nulls in the polar diagram. A dipole erected reasonably in the clear and properly fed with balun and coaxial feeder to the rig will have little or no pick-up from the ends, and if orientated in a North-South direction will provide a useful reduction in QRM from the powerful southern European HF stations. Omit the balun and those nulls will not be in evidence due to uncontrolled radiation and pick-up from the feeder. Without a balun, one half of the dipole is connected to the outer of the coaxial feeder which will radiate in an uncontrolled manner depending on its length.

It may be, however, that you want to have an omnidirectional radiation pattern or that physical limitations mean the antenna must be erected North-South although you want to work into Europe to the South. Consider the effect of deliberately controlling the feeder radiation and making use of it. This can easily be achieved by simply moving the balun down the feeder from the antenna feedpoint by a quarter wave, allowing radiation from the top part of the feeder and using the balun to stop the radiation (and interference pick-up) from the lower part of the feeder.

I have called this technique *controlled feeder radiation* (CFR). It should be noted that CFR depends on radiation from the outer shield of a coaxial cable which is not applicable to balanced feeders.

## BALUN TYPES

There are many different types of balun available (1). The simplest and the one applicable here uses the RF choke principle to stop radiation from the outer of the coaxial feeder by simply winding it into a coil or on to a ferrite ring, weight and size limitations usually dictating the use of the ferrite. Since high impedance with minimum number of turns is required, the use of a high-permeability ferrite core is mandatory. Standard black ferrite cores as used for interference suppression are ideal, and since the balun may need to be suspended from the antenna, the use of small coaxial feeder (URM76) is advantageous in the interests of weight reduction. The standard 4 cm

ohm feeder. The physical length of the CFR section will vary with the design of the choke balun. The design shown in Fig 1 will result in a CFR section length of 0.275 of a wavelength, e.g. 19 feet at 14.2MHz, and this, if added to an existing installation will not alter the resonant frequency of the system. If a different choke design is used the CFR section length should be adjusted until the antenna resonant frequency is the same as that of a dipole without the CFR section.

## DIPOLE WITH CFR

Fig 2 shows a dipole fed with coaxial feeder with the balun placed 0.275 of a wavelength below the feed point, thus providing an omnidirectional vertical quarter-wave radiator in addition to the standard figure-of-eight pattern of the dipole. The low-angle vertically polarised radiation is a considerable bonus, being achieved without the need for an expensive and complicated system of ground radials. This application of CFR has been used by the author this year when operating from southern France back to UK on 7MHz, and has proved very effective indeed. Two days of deliberate operation without CFR without announcing the fact resulted in many comments on reduced signal strength.

## MULTIBAND CFR

If multiband operation is desired a trap dipole may be used. A typical example has traps for 28, 14 and 7MHz and an overall length for 3.5MHz. The CFR principle can be applied in various ways to this type of antenna, depending on the performance required on the various bands covered.

Placing the choke balun 0.275 wavelength at 28MHz below the feed point will give optimum all-round DX capability on that band with little or no effect on the other bands, retaining for example the QRM-reducing properties of the dipole pattern on 14 and 7MHz.

Placing the choke balun 0.275 wavelength at 14MHz below the feed point will give all-round DX coverage on that band with no effect on 3.5 and 7MHz. The CFR section in this case is a half wave on 28MHz and, being high impedance, will not accept power from a low-impedance feed.

Similarly a CFR section having a length of 0.275 wavelength on 7MHz will give all-round DX coverage on that band with no effect on 14, 28, and 3.5MHz. The CFR section is high impedance on 14 and 28MHz.

It is quite feasible to replace the CFR choke balun with a section of feeder wound into a coil and tuned to the required resonant frequency with a capacitor. A number of these resonant traps could be spaced at optimum points along the feeder, thus allowing every possible combination of CFR on the various bands covered.

## CFR SPECIALS

The concept of controlled feeder radiation means that it is perfectly feasible to have no apparent connection to the outer of the coaxial feeder. The connection exists nevertheless, namely from the inner to the outer surface of the coaxial shield at the antenna end of the feeder. This leads to considerable simplification in the design of a number of antennas and Fig 3 is perhaps just the beginning of the family of antennas using the CFR principle of making the top section of the feeder into a radiator.

All these antennas when suitably dimensioned have been shown to produce a good match to 50 ohm feeder.

The simplest is Fig 3a which consists of a simple quarter-wave end fed element combining with the CFR section to produce a right-angled dipole. The antenna will radiate vertically and horizontally polarised signals, or a mixture of both polarisations dependent on the direction from the antenna.

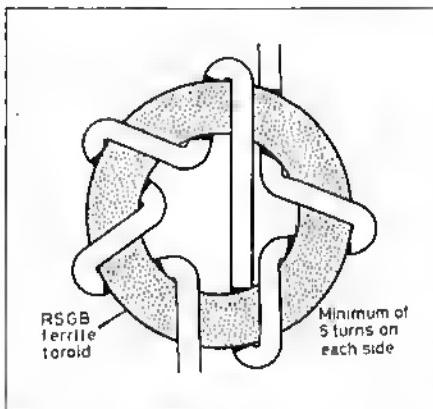


Fig 1. Method of winding choke balun

O/D core as supplied by RSGB will take 11 turns of URM76 and should be wound as shown in Fig 1 in order to reduce self capacitance. A single core will provide sufficient impedance for 28 to 14 MHz and two cores taped together will cover 7 MHz also. If long feeder runs are necessary the small diameter coax need only be used for the balun and radiating portion, a weatherproof coaxial plug and socket being fitted below the balun to connect to a larger feeder with lower losses. If very high RF voltages are expected the balun may be wound onto an antenna rod from an old transistor radio, thus physically separating the input and output.

## CHOICE OF CORE

The choke balun operates at high impedance and a relatively low flux in the core, which allows high-permeability materials to be used without fear of core saturation. The transformer balun, usually trifilar wound, operates at low impedance and higher flux densities, often requiring the use of lower permeability ferrites to avoid core saturation and self-resonance effects. The CFR antenna choke core should have a relative permeability of at least 50 at the frequency of use.

## IMPEDANCE MATCHING AND CFR LENGTH

A useful advantage of CFR is that the normal 75 ohm impedance of a dipole is reduced to nearer 50 ohms, thus providing a lower VSWR in standard 50

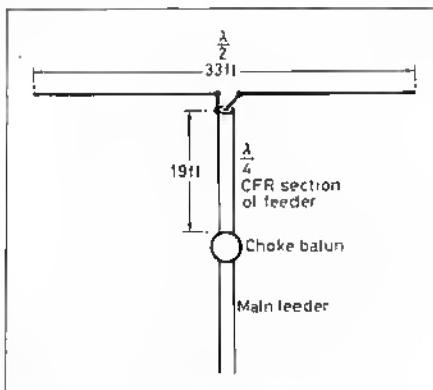


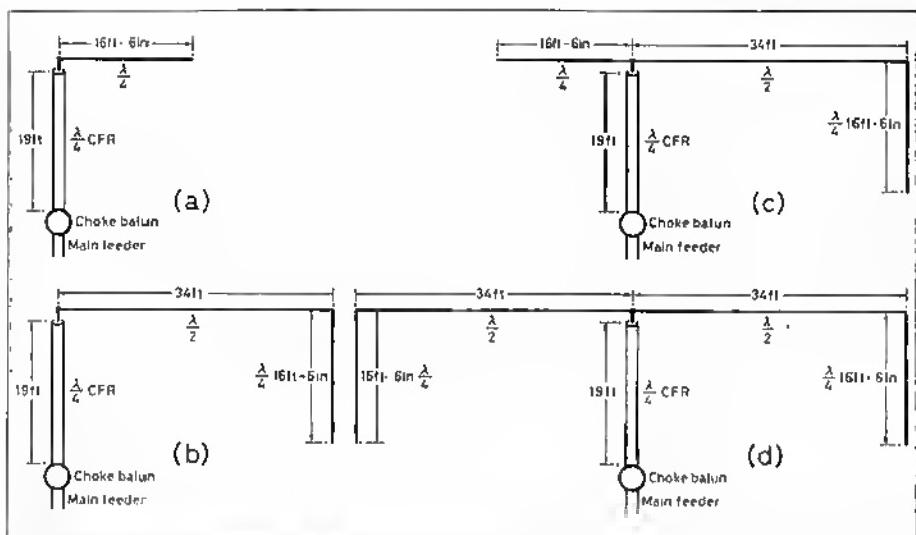
Fig 2. A 14.2MHz CFR half-wave dipole

With the variable polarisations reflected from the ionosphere, the antenna can be considered to be virtually omnidirectional. Straightening out this antenna results in a very useful low-impedance end-fed dipole which may be conveniently strung from the window of an upstairs shack to a suitable point in the garden.

**Fg 3b** could variously be described as a "half square" or a "2/3rd bobtail" and consists of two vertical radiators, fed in phase with equal power. The polar diagram is figure-of-eight at right angles to the wire with a free space theoretical gain of 3dBd and vertically polarised low-angle radiation. The low angle radiation is particularly useful for DX work, and the gain achieved in practice on a DX signal is considerably more than the theoretical free space 3dBd.

**Fig 3c** is a half square with an extra quarter-wave horizontal section which results in the addition of horizontally polarised radiation to the original vertical radiation. DX signals after reflection from the ionosphere are of varying polarisation and the ability to handle all polarisations may well be an advantage.

**Fig 3d** can only be described as a modified "bobtail". The standard bobtail is end-fed at the high-impedance point at the end of the centre radiator. This necessitates a resonant feed system, either a link-coupled tuned circuit or a tapped quarter-wave stub. The CFR system is low-impedance feed with the centre radiator consisting of the CFR section of the feeder. Current distribution in the three verticals is 50% in the centre and 25% in each of the verticals. This is identical to the standard bobtail and results in a free space theoretical gain of 3dBd with an exceptionally clean figure-of-eight polar diagram. Comparison tests between this antenna and the two-element version of Fig 3b showed identical performance on stations within the beam, and the exceptionally clean pattern of the three-element was a noticeable



**Fig 3. CFR antennas:** (a) Isotropic; (b) half-square; (c) half-square; (d) bobtail

advantage in reducing QRM but conversely disadvantageous if the wanted station was out of the main beam. Basically the third element was not worth the extra space required unless the antenna could be accurately orientated onto the wanted station, when the reduction in QRM from the sharp clean polar diagram could be appreciated.

## **FEEDER VOLTAGES**

It is interesting to consider the voltages on the feeder at the antenna side of the balun. The outside shield of the coaxial cable is behaving as a low-impedance fed quarter-wave radiator with an end impedance of some 3000 ohms, which at a power level of 50W into that element means some 400V at the end furthest from the feed point. The inside of that same shield is at zero potential.

being the outer of a coaxial feed line at an impedance of 50ohms. There is thus a potential difference of 400V across less than 1mm of copper at the choke. A dramatic example of skin effect in practice.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Initial testing of the CFR principle was conducted at 435MHz on the author's "antenna range" but the final full-size tests with much DX operation were carried out by a near neighbour, Bill Wheeler, G3BFC whose co-operation, patience and encouragement is gratefully acknowledged.

#### REFERENCE

- (1) Ian White G3SEK "Baluns-more than a match"  
*RadCom* December 1989

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## BOOK REVIEWS

### MOBILE RADIO SERVICING HANDBOOK

by Roger Belcher, Mike Fitch, David Ogle and Geoff Varrall. Heinemann Newnes, First edition 1989, xvi + 282 pages (240 by 160mm), £25.00 (hard covers), ISBN 0 434 92187 4.

In recent years, the major growth area in the field of professional radiocommunications has been VHF/UHF mobile and personal radiophones, in some cases straining almost to breaking point the capacity of the systems. This expansion has greatly increased the demand for skilled installation and servicing technicians.

As many amateurs have discovered, the servicing of modern mobile transceivers, base stations and portable handhelds calls for both skill and a delicate touch; basic knowledge of circuitry, practical knowledge in coping with fault-tracing and component replacement on crowded printed-circuit boards, most recently with the added problems of surface-mounted technology. While such skills cannot be gained solely from "book-learning", the four authors of this new book — all with years of professional experience in this sector of the industry — have jointly produced a most useful primer that supplements manufacturers' servicing manuals for individual models. It covers the impact of data, cellular radio, national trunking technologies on servicing, diagnosis and repair procedures as well as basic private mobile radio (PMR) services etc.

Although there is nothing in the book specifically concerned with amateur radio (or CB), much of the information would be useful to anyone prepared to undertake the servicing of their crowded and complex units. The emphasis is on information directed at practical servicing in properly equipped workshops. Useful outlines are included on basic circuitry and frequency synthesis etc but not in the depth sought by a designer or home-constructor. Antenna systems are covered but more information might have been included on the care and maintenance of batteries which are only briefly surveyed.

In brief, the book succeeds in meeting the publisher's claim that it is an authoritative and practical package of information on the servicing and repair of VHF and UHF mobile radios and base stations, together with the maintenance and support requirements of the overall radio system, including antenna and mast installations.

#### CONTENTS:

1. Mobile radio in perspective (10pp); 2. Propagation and frequency utilization (10pp); 3. System choices (5pp); 4. Principles of RF communication (14pp); 5. Practice of RF communication (13pp); 6.

Practice of RF communication — transmitter design (7pp); 7. Frequency synthesizer circuit principles (23pp); 8. Principles of RF measurement (25pp); 9. Calibration, test and fault-finding (34pp); 10. Component identification and handling (28pp); 11. Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) (8pp); 12. Antennas — selection, installation, fault-finding and maintenance (41pp); 13. Typical operator and system problems (4pp); 14. Spectrum efficiency — audio, Selcall, trunking and cellular systems (18pp); 15. Pan-European digital technology (7pp); 16. Data over radio (6pp); Appendices I-VIII (22pp); Index (3pp).

### TELECOMMUNICATIONS PRIMER (3RD EDITION),

by G Langley, Pitman, 1990. vi + 182 pages. Soft covers 244 x 184mm, £9.99.

Although this is not a book directed at radio amateurs, it provides a most useful, non-mathematical descriptive introduction to the wide range of modern telecommunications services and their application to Information technology (IT): line, radio, broadband, television, ocean cables, satellite systems, fibre optics and with particular emphasis on the growing area of digital services, computer-controlled cellular radio networks, local area networks etc. It should prove most useful to school-leavers and others contemplating a career in telecommunications or to those whose daily work requires an understanding of the services now available. The author has succeeded in providing a readable, up-to-date survey of this expanding field without getting too immersed in detail. The balance of treatment is aimed at the transition from analogue to digital systems; for amateurs, the section on digital fundamentals and applications is a useful introduction. The author, who has worked in professional telecommunications for over 40 years, is able to convey a sound and authoritative view of modern telecommunications, though perhaps a little wobbly on broadcasting and cable television. I was surprised to find my old taskmaster referred to as the ITA some 18 years after it became the IBA, now expected to emerge shortly as the ITC. Again, I do not believe that "nearly all" the CATV systems installed in the USA since 1972 have been provided with a true reverse-channel capability (most of their home-shopping services depend on viewers using the normal telephone service). But these are very minor quibbles in a book that has been extensively revised and up-dated since its first edition in 1983 and now gives an unusually good overview of modern telecommunications.

#### CONTENTS:

Section A, Basic principles (9pp); B, Some fundamentals (20pp); C, Switching and signalling (17pp); D, Cable, radio and transmission (28pp);

E, Maintenance and operation (5pp); F, Television (4pp); G, Digital services (30pp); H, Digital fundamentals (15pp); I, Today and tomorrow (39pp); Index (4pp).

G3VA

### YAGI ANTENNA DESIGN

by James L Lawson, W2PV, Publ ARRL. £9.95 (RSGB Members); £11.71 (Non-members).

This book, by the late Jim Lawson, is an edited and extended version of his series of articles in the US magazine *Ham Radio*. This book is required reading for those interested in Yagi antennas, and who isn't?

Starting from fundamental principles, the author develops a powerful CAD approach to Yagi design. Validating his computer model against the NBS experiments of Viezbicke and others, he then uses the program to model a wide range of Yagi designs from 2 to 8 elements on boom lengths of 0.1 to 1.5 wavelength. Of notable interest is the first good discussion of the gain, front to back and boom length relationship. Clearly, we should be describing our antennas in boom length rather than number of elements. The optimisation of front-to-back ratio by the precise adjustment of element spacing is of interest for those who can build antennas to maintain the necessary mechanical tolerances (about 25cm at 28MHz). Loop and quad designs are analysed as a pair of bent close-stacked Yagis and the small gain differences calculated. It would have been of interest to know whether the analysis supports the often stated view that quads out-perform Yagis when close to the ground. The following chapters on the effect of height and the evident performance advantage to be gained from stacking are a 'must' for those who aspire to become 'big guns' or avoid the short skip QRM. Height isn't everything but it certainly helps.

Later chapters go through the steps necessary to turn the theory into practice, including frequency scaling and taper correction. The reviewer automated these calculations on a simple spreadsheet.

The final chapter describes a series of worked examples, ranging from 2 and 3 element Yagis on 7MHz to 3 to 8 elements on 28MHz. All of these designs are monobend. Many designs would seem to be large to European eyes but the strength of the design methodology shows in the strength of the signals. No details of mechanical construction or matching systems are given as these aspects are covered in many other texts. A knowledge of mathematics is not required, but for those who have such knowledge, the book provides added pleasure. This book sets a standard against which others will be judged, just as the antenna designed by its readers will on the air. Buy the book, read it and build yourself a superior Yagi.

G3PJT

### Correction to Simple Spectrum Analyser November 1989

The design shows the coil L4 connected directly between pin 8 (Vcc) and pin 6 of the NE602, and the article stated that this was correct. Despite the correct performance of numerous prototypes, discussion with the chip manufacturer has convinced me that I misinterpreted the device data sheet. It is possible that under certain circumstances the oscillator will not function correctly because of this. I suggest that pin 6 of the NE602 be isolated from Vcc by the insertion of a capacitor between pin 6 of the NE602 and the junction of L4/C13. This can be achieved simply by cutting the PCB track next to pin 6 and soldering a small 1n ceramic capacitor on the track side of the board across the gap.

On the Sweep/Video board, R21 may be usefully reduced to 33k, shortening the time the sweep oscillator spends at each end of the sweep.

R P Blackwell, G4PMK

### Secret Antennas September 1989

Appendix I should be corrected as follows:

- Change the second sentence to: "The theoretical radiation resistance of the short radiating element at 7MHz was computed from a simple formula given by Kraus (Ref 4 but p.137, Delete Ref 3), dividing his dipole formula by 2 for a monopole. The result was about 0.7ohms, making the loss resistance approximately  $28 - 0.7 = 27.3\text{ohms}$ ".

2. Just below the equation change the sentence to: "In this case the efficiency is about 2.5%, or a loss of 16dB."

3. Delete the short second paragraph.

4. Starting near the middle of the third paragraph, change to: "— radiation resistance  $R_r$  of only about 0.0023ohms or little more than 0.3% of the radiation resistance of the compact monopole. So in order for the loop to have the efficiency even of the experimental short monopole it would have to have a loss resistance of about 0.3% of the loss resistance of the monopole, or about 0.08ohms," — and continue with the present text.

5. Add at the very end: "and there is also a ground-wave null at right angles to the plane of the loop."

R Silberstein, WOYBF

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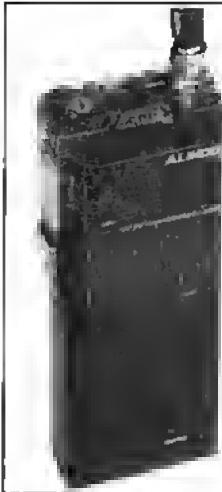
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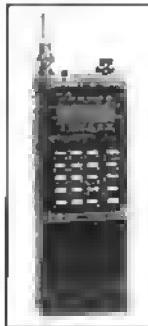
A single button takes you directly into the memory bank. Up/down or scan will quickly move you around or use direct access for a particular channel number.

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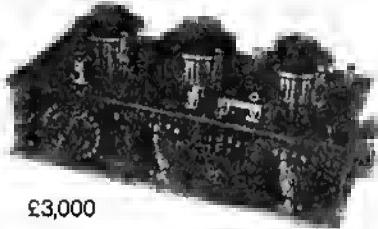
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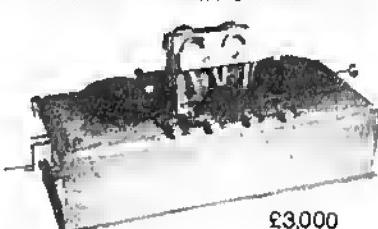
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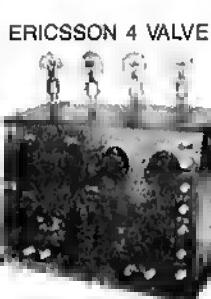
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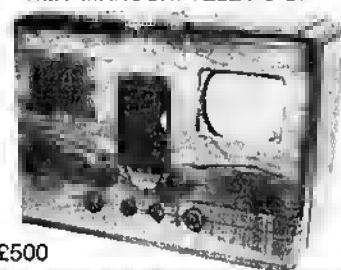
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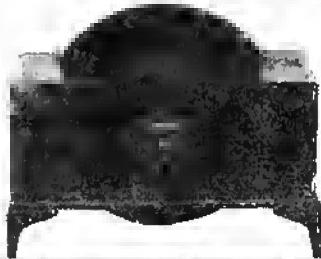
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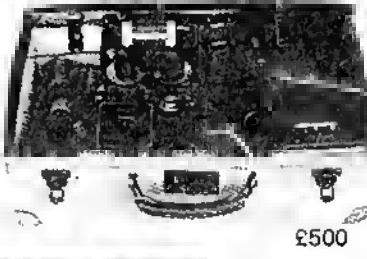
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# GB2SM – the first 35 years

**A tribute to the work of Geoff Voller, G3JUL, who has run the station from the beginning.**

Probably the most famous UK callsign in the world - GB2SM - is held by the Science Museum in Kensington. Many people have been first attracted to the hobby by seeing the museum's station which has been in operation for 35 years.

## RSGB PROPOSAL

The idea of an amateur radio station at the Science Museum came from a discussion between G.R.M. Garratt, G5CS, then Deputy Keeper of the museum's Department of Electrical Engineering and Communications, and the Radio Society of Great Britain. The Society formally proposed to the Museum authorities that an amateur station be set up in line with the policy of having demonstrations of scientific and technical applications whenever possible. The suggestion was accepted with enthusiasm and the station commenced operation on 5 August 1955 under the supervision of Geoff Voller, G3JUL. Geoff first set up the station and has been responsible for it ever since as part of his work with the museum's communications exhibitions.

The callsign GB2SM was the first ever GB2 call and was one of only three permanent special event callsigns at the time.

## DEMONSTRATIONS

The Science Museum attracts over a million visitors each year, many of whom come and visit the station. Those who identify themselves as licensed amateurs are invited to sign the visitors' book and most of the world's best-known callsigns appear in this book.

Owing to the complexity of the station, visitors are not usually permitted to operate. This is done by a team of 20 volunteers who man the station on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays in a rota. GB2SM can be found on the 3rd floor of the Science Museum although the rest of the Communications Exhibition, of which it is part, is now on the ground floor.

On demonstration days, OSOs are set up, usually on phone as this is most easily understandable, and details are displayed on an overhead projector screen. Visitors are still intrigued by being able to talk directly to amateurs all over the



Geoff Voller operating the present day GB2SM. It is now far more comprehensive than most UK amateur stations and uses a console which was specially built 15 years ago by Imhof. (Science Museum copyright)

world despite the ease with which international phone calls can be made nowadays. Although the station is equipped for VHF and UHF, most contacts are on HF as

this has proved to be more attractive to the visitors. Many overseas stations contacted by GB2SM report having visited the museum and its amateur radio exhibit at some time.

One of the questions most commonly asked by visitors is "How much does it cost to get on the air?". RSGB literature is available to those wanting more information and some C.M. Howes QRP kits are on display.



Geoff Voller, G3JUL, operating GB2SM in 1955. The schoolboys watching were from the Lycee Francais. As a result of encountering amateur radio at the Museum, two became licensed and one went on to become a professor of electronics. The 1955 station, typical of many at this time, comprised a rack mounted transmitter donated by Pye/Labgear, a very early production model of the Labgear LG300 Tx, a GEC BRT 400 and an Eddystone 680 receiver. The aerial was a KW Electronics trap dipole. (Science Museum copyright)

## EQUIPMENT

Most of the equipment used by GB2SM has been donated, though some has been bought in recent years. It has been policy to use British equipment but this had to change when no more ht transceivers were made in Britain.

Equipment: Rockwell Collins KM380 HF transceiver, Collins 30L1 Linear Amplifier, Collins 312B-5 control unit, Capco antenna matching unit, Monitor oscilloscope, Yaesu FT900 HF transceiver, Yaesu FT726 VHF/UHF transceiver.

There are also displays of professional teletype, satellite weather pictures, satellite broadcasting and teletext.

Aerials: TH6DXX 4 ele for 14, 21 and 28MHz, Jaybeam 2 el tribander, dipoles for 3.5, 7, and 10MHz, all-band vertical, 430MHz collinear, 14 ele yagi for 144MHz. All are at 120ft above street level.

Tens of thousands of contacts have been made with most countries of the world. Many of the major operating awards, such as DXCC, WAS, WAZ and EDXC have been achieved and are on display. QSL cards go via the bureau.

## RESEARCH

Apart from demonstrating the science of amateur radio, the station has been used to further radio research. A beacon was operated on 28MHz from 1966 to 1968 during the trough of the sun spot cycle. The many reports received went to the ITU for analysis. GB2SM was also part of the reporting team for OSCAR 7 in 1974.

Amateur radio as a vital communications link was demonstrated in 1966-7 when the station provided twice weekly the only telephonic link with the island of Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic. This was with official agreement and it was used by many government departments and the BBC. During research into heart disease on the island by the Medical Research Council, electrocardiograms were successfully transmitted to GB2SM and thence to the MRC. This was probably the first time that such data were transmitted by HF radio. Instructions for treatment of medical emergencies were periodically transmitted.

GB2SM has enabled the Science Museum to provide public demonstrations of such technological advances as transistor applications, fax, radio teletype, and satellite links. It was one of the first stations in the country to receive signals from Sputnik 1, and to demonstrate its purpose to visitors.

Regular contacts are made with stations in museums and science centres in other countries and many requests have been received for information on how to set up a similar demonstration station.

## THE FUTURE

Geoff Voller was awarded the Calcutta Key by the RSGB in 1985 in recognition of his work with GB2SM in furthering international relations via amateur radio. He retired from the staff of the Museum in January but continues to administer GB2SM on a consultancy basis. With the trend towards more self financing for museums, and in view of Geoff's impending retirement, there have been some alarming rumours of GB2SM closing. We are pleased to report that these were quite untrue. Dr E.J. Becklake, Head of the museum's Department of Engineering, wrote to the Society last October "We have no plans to close down GB2SM .... we are proud of GB2SM and hope that it will continue for many years to come".

# The Novice Licence – Part 2

This month John Case, GW4HWR, looks at the role of the instructor.

### "I THINK I WOULD LIKE TO BE AN INSTRUCTOR"

As the Novice Licence Training Scheme takes shape, there are probably many people asking themselves the above question and wondering if they could cope with the many challenges that will inevitably confront new instructors. If you are an experienced teacher or RAE lecturer, please read on as you may be able to help answer some of the questions that will arise by taking part in one of the short courses to be set up in the very near future.

### QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

"Can I accept the discipline imposed by a rigid 'scheme of work'?"

As explained in last month's article [1], a short course requires a detailed programme of work if the syllabus is to be covered completely in the time available. Each of us likes to do his or her 'own thing' but in this course it is important to resist the many temptations to talk of other things unless the whole group agrees to an extension of course time. Also, in the early stages of running a course, it is most important for instructors to make every effort to follow the training scheme as it is laid out, with no modifications. There will be many opportunities to let your personality shine through in the way in which a subject is presented.

"Am I able to identify with young people and to keep my talk simple without being patronising?"

"Could I advise a student that the course may not be suitable, and do this in a diplomatic way so that the decision does not appear too harsh?"

"If necessary, could I talk to parents/guardians before accepting young students? Could I encourage them to take the maximum interest in the course and perhaps persuade them to join if there is room, and if not, to attend in an observing role?"

"Do I have enough time available?" Any form of instruction is time consuming so it is important to be sure that you will be able to give all the time needed. Remember that it is not possible to take a group one

week and then miss the next. Students may do this but the teacher must not. This will probably mean two hours a week for fifteen weeks!

"Can I make the course fun?"

The course must be enjoyable; not just for your students but yourself. This applies to the first and every time you go through it. You will need to be able to learn from your experiences and to search for fresh ways of putting over your ideas. This becomes more important as the subject matter increases in difficulty.

### BEFORE YOU START AS AN INSTRUCTOR

You will need to get a copy of the *Training Manual for Instructors* (expected to be available late May) and work completely through the course. Do all of the exercises and build all of the units which the students will be expected to make, looking for student difficulties as you do so. It will be important to 'window dress' your exercises a little by the use of paint or varnish on the wooden baseboards, terminals labelled by means of rub-down transfers where appropriate and excellent soldering whenever it is necessary. These visual aids will be very useful later to show to each new group and to give them something more than the printed instructions to follow.

### "IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO IN THE MEANTIME?"

Yes, there are several things which a prospective instructor might like

to do and which would prove helpful in the future. It has already been suggested that you should work through the course and make up some, or all of the visual aids. The *Training Manual* is written but is not yet generally available. Meanwhile, you could make up the following items.

**Test Set No 1.** A picture of this appeared in the April edition of *RadCom*. There should be enough information in the diagram to enable the very simple unit to be built.

**The medium-wave radio - MF RX.** The original design for this appeared in the pilot edition of *D/IY Radio*. There has been an updated version which was put out as a handout at the 1988 RSGB National Convention. Copies are still be available from RSGB HQ. A third source is Book 3 of the series *Amateur Radio for Beginners*, available shortly.

**The pendulum frame.** This is a very useful teaching aid suitable for demonstrating difficult concepts such as resonance, and can be used to show that frequency selective devices can absorb energy from one transmitter but not from another. Similarly, it will demonstrate the ability of one receiver to respond to a transmitter while another will not. It consists of four pendulums, two of the same length and two having lengths different to, but not twice as long or half as long as the first two (Fig 1).

Almost any support will do but it looks much more professional if a simple frame is made up. The vertical posts should be about 18 in. apart, with about 12 in. of free space. Tie a thick piece of thread between the tops of the frame, pulling it up fairly tightly. Next, four identical pendulum bobs are required; in the original, OBA nuts and bolts were used. Cut two pieces of thread to the same length - about 12 in., tie one end to one of the bolts and the other to the thread between the posts, making sure that

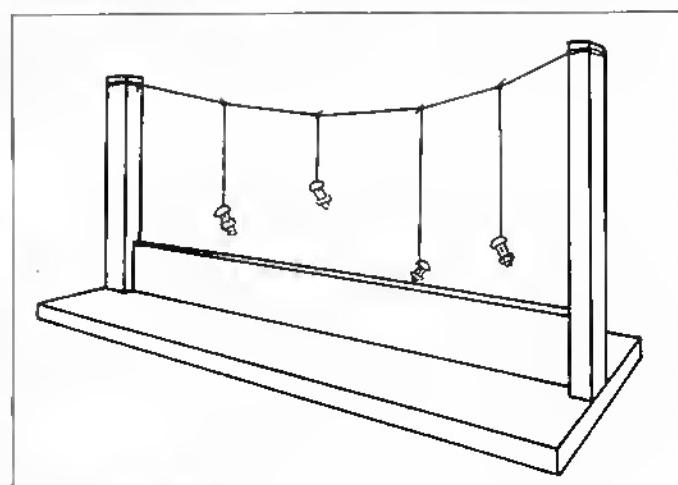
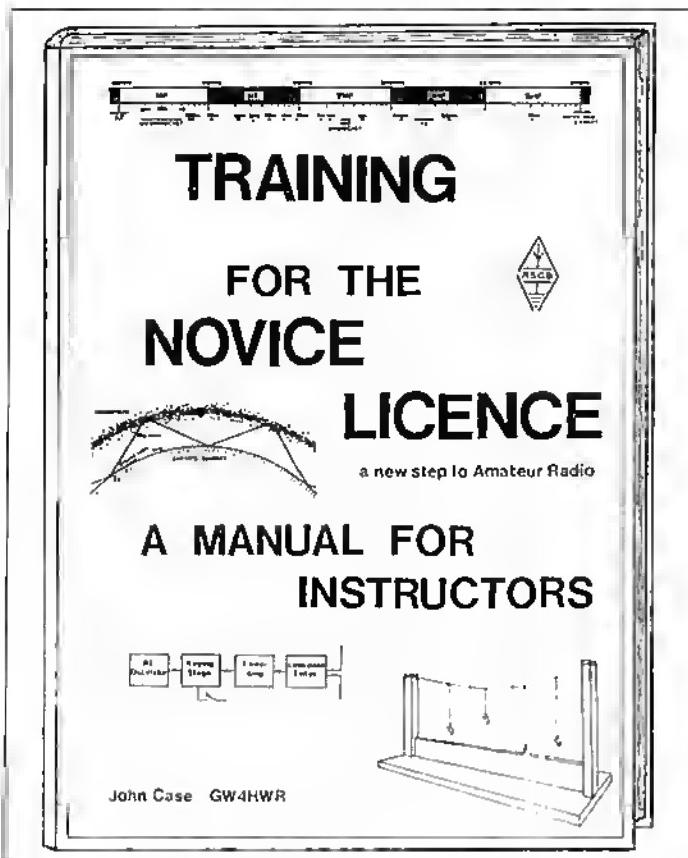


Fig 1. The pendulum frame



the pendulums are the same length. It is most important that the knot between the two pieces of thread is made carefully. Twist the thread

two or three times around the horizontal piece and then tie tightly. This is necessary as the horizontal thread must turn when a pendulum

is made to swing. Position the pendulums about three inches from the vertical posts. The other two pendulums are fixed in the same way in between the other two as shown.

There are many ways in which this teaching aid can be used. For instance, stop all pendulums and then swing one of the two identical ones so that it moves at right angles to the bar at the bottom of the stand. After a few moments the other pendulum with the same length will start to swing while the other two remain stationary or make some confused movement.

#### ACCOMMODATION

Many radio clubs already have suitable premises and will be willing to run courses. In that case it would only be necessary to ensure that the necessary equipment is available. Similarly, some Scout and Guide groups may be able to support courses. Where no such facilities exist, it may be worth considering an amateur's shack or workroom, especially as the numbers will be small. If there are any amateurs who would like to help in this way, Hilary Claytonsmit, G4JKS (QTHR), would like to hear from you. The station owner would have to be present whenever the course was in progress to ensure that the equipment was used correctly and carefully.

#### THE NEXT STEP

If you have decided that you would like to 'have a go', what next?

Watch the pages of *RadCom* inviting prospective instructors to send for an application booklet. This will contain many details relating to the Novice Licence course as well as a questionnaire, the answers to which will be found in the booklet. In addition, there will be an application form.

If your answers are satisfactory you will be asked to attend an interview at some not-too-distant venue. This will be a very informal affair where you will be able to put forward your ideas as well as asking questions about the RSGB scheme. If everything goes well you will become a registered instructor. All this may seem rather involved, but it is important to realise that as an instructor you will be carrying out the continuous assessment which is a very important part of the Licence qualification. It is from this assessment that each student will be able to obtain a course completion certificate. The possession of a certificate will be one of the prerequisites for entrance to the examination.

And don't forget, the course must be FUN!

#### REFERENCE

[1] John Case, GW4HWR, "The Novice Licence" *RadComm* March 1990 p16.

## RSGB is Amateur Radio...

The Radio Society of Great Britain has represented the interests of radio amateurs in Britain for over 75 years on a national and international level. It seeks to promote the position of the amateur service on the radio spectrum and liaises with the Department of Trade and Industry and other government departments. It is a founder member of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) which represents amateur radio enthusiasts at the International Telecommunications Union.

For the individual member it provides a wide range of services including:

- Radio Communication, the Society's monthly magazine.
- QSL bureau, a free service for outgoing and incoming cards
- A 15% discount on RSGB books
- Subscription service for foreign amateur radio magazines
- Planning Permission advice
- EMC advice
- Reciprocal licensing information
- Equipment insurance at advantageous rates.

For an application form please contact: Radio Society of Great Britain, Lambda House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3JE. Telephone 0707 59015 (24 hours).

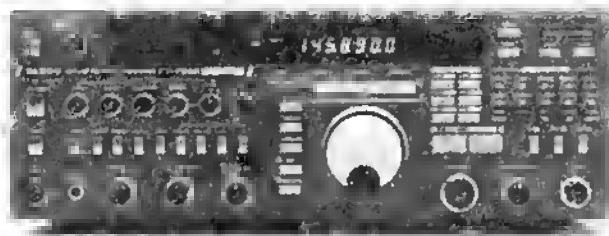
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MC50 Base station microphone	£46.00
MC60A De Luxe desk microphone	£88.22
TR751E 2m Multimode Mobile Transceiver	£99.00
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TM721E FM Dual Bander	£699.00
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TH205E 2m FM Handheld Transceiver	£215.00
TH215E 2m Handheld FM Transceiver	£252.00
TH405E 70 cm Handheld FM Transceiver	£288.00
R5000 General coverage receiver	£87.75
VC20VHF Converter 108-174MHz	£167.21
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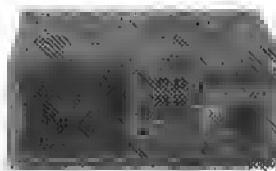
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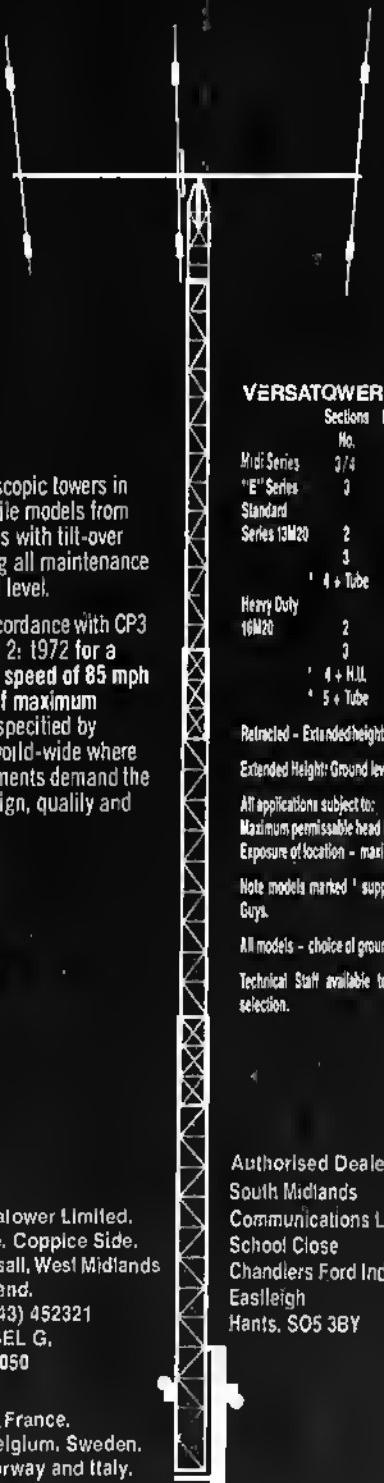
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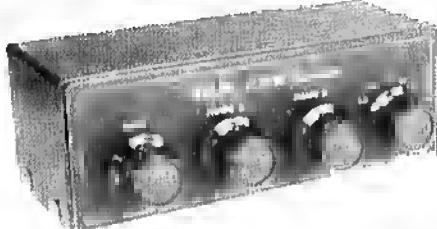
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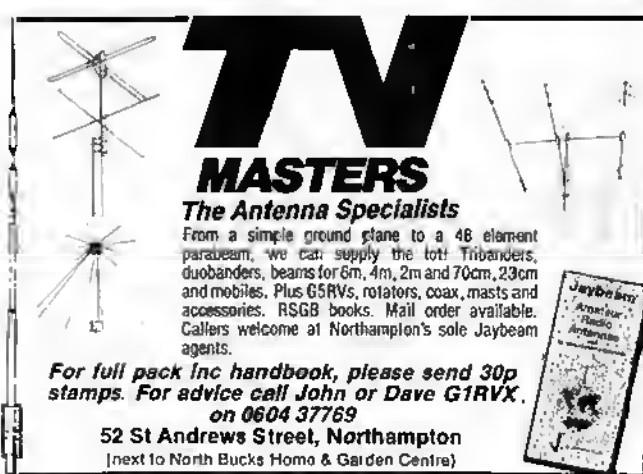
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SSB generation is by the tilter method using a double balanced modulator and crystal filter. The onboard microphone amplifier is designed for low impedance microphones, and the key input accepts straight or electronic keyers. Relay switched band filters, PTT switching, and ALC input facilities are amongst the technical features provided.

Perhaps the most important feature of the HTX10 is that it is a HOWES KIT. This means that the module has been designed specifically for home construction, with ease of building and set-up in mind. There is also an expanding range of Interlinking companion kits for you to use with the HTX10 if you wish. The DXR10 receiver and VF10 VFO Kits are available now, and there are matching transverter and PA kits under development. If you fancy the challenge of building something a little more "upmarket" than a simple QRP CW rig, then the HTX10 may well prove of interest.

HTX10 kit: £49.90

Assembled PCB: £74.90

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Please add £1.00 P&P to your total order value.

All HOWES KITS include full, clear instructions, a good quality PCB with screen printed parts locations, and all board mounted components (yes, this does include the crystal tiler on the HTX10!). Delivery is normally within 7 days. Credit card sales and technical help are available by phone during office hours, but please send an SAE for a copy of our catalogue or data sheets on specific products.

73 from Dave G4KOH, Technical Manager.



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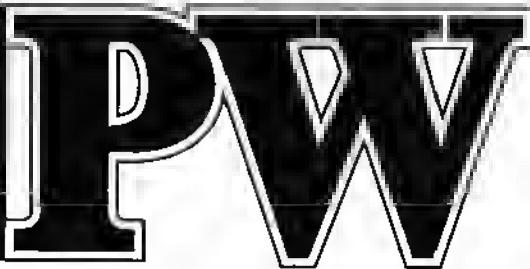
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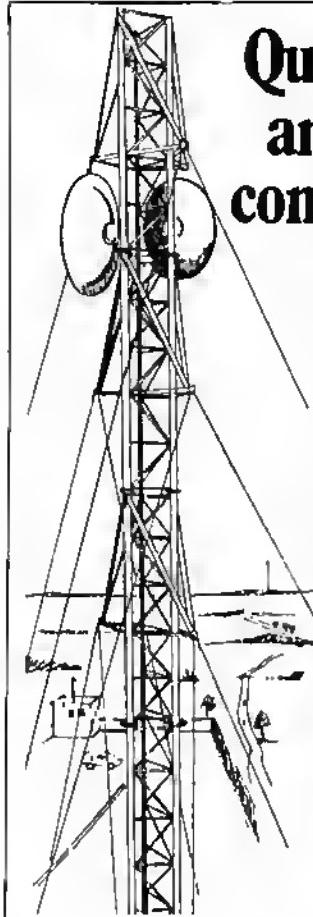
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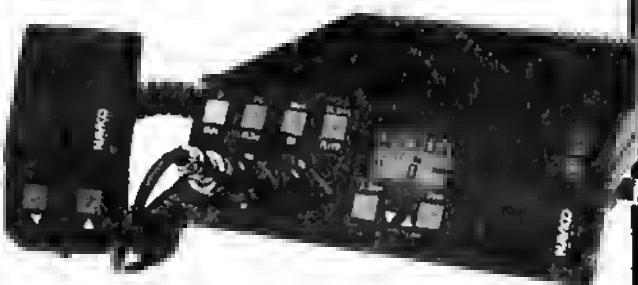
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## If you have a query about:

- How do I get started in amateur radio?
- Where is my nearest amateur radio club?
- Where can I find an RAE course?
- Who is the local expert on ...?
- Who in RSGB do I contact about ...?

*Then please contact your local RLO.*

He or she will know the answer to your question or who best to contact for the specialist answer. Remember, your RLO may well be very local to you, and being a volunteer may be contacted during the early evening when telephone calls are cheap.

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RAYNET COMMITTEE: Chairman - Philip Howarth, G3YAC  
REPEATER MANAGEMENT GROUP: Chairman - Geoff Dover, G4AFJ  
TECHNICAL & PUBLICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Chairman -  
Peter Chadwick, G3RZP  
TRAINING & EDUCATION ADVISORY WORKING GROUP: Chairman -  
John Case, GW4HWR  
VHF COMMITTEE: Chairman - Peter Burden, G3UBX  
VHF CONTESTS COMMITTEE: Chairman - Bryn Llewellyn, G4DEZ

**NEIL LASHER, G6HIU**  
40 Farm Road, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 9LT

## 3.5 MHz Licences Released

At last the DTI has cleared on an experimental basis all but one of the 3.5MHz mailbox applications. These are intended primarily for links within the UK and with near Europe. If you are active on this band please send any reports to me so that I can report how these stations integrate into the network.

At the same time, the DTI released another mailbox licence, GB7GHU, located in Perivale, Middlesex, on 29.250MHz. I can report that in its first few days of operation many European stations had connected to read the British messages.

## News from Japan.

JARL News the Japan Amateur Radio League news-sheet has a full report this month on the new Packet satellite JAS-1b/Fuji-Oscar 20. This was launched successfully on February 7th from the Tanegashima Space Centre. Along with the report is a full instruction sheet on how to use it. As this satellite has a fully working mailbox on board I have reproduced the article below.

**JAS-1b** has two transponders, one for analogue communication by CW and SSB phone, the other for digital communication by packet mailbox.

### Necessary equipment

1. FM transmitter on the 144 MHz band with an output of 10 Watts for the uplink, which sends digital signal from a modem in F2 modulation.

2. SSB receiver on 435 MHz band for the downlink, which delivers down-converted signal in Bi-phased PSK to the modem. It is preferable for the receiving frequency to be controlled by external controlling signal from a demodulator.

3. Antenna: For uplink, gain requires some 10 dbi, and for downlink, 10-15 dbi it is preferable to have a dual axis rotator for the antenna so as to track JAS-1b.

4. Modem for demodulation of PSK signals. (G3RUH PSK modem will suffice) set at 1200 baud.

### 5. TNC

6. Terminal with RS-232C serial port and emulation software.

### Setting up your TNC

Set AX25L2V2 to ON. AX.25 must be level 2, otherwise you will not be able to connect to JAS-1b.

Set FRACK which is the waiting time for an ACK signal to 6 or higher. Other time constants are the same as for normal packet operation. When there are many stations using JAS-1b it may be advisable to increase FRACK.

Set MAXframe = 2 and PAClen = 128. PAClen should not exceed 200 under any circumstances.

You are now ready to try to connect to JAS-1b. The downlink frequency is 435.910MHz, while the uplink is any of the following four frequencies: 145.85/145.87/145.89/145.91 MHz.

The callsign of the satellite is 8J1JBS and when connected you will be prompted with the following sign on message.

```
***CONNECTED to 8J1JBS
FO-20/JAS-1b Mail box Ver.1.11
commands {B/F/H/M/R/U/W}
Use H command for Help
JAS>
```

### The available command list.

- B: List file headers addressed to All
- F: List latest 15 file headers
- F\*: List latest 50 file headers
- F(d): List file headers posted on day (d)
- H: Show this help list
- K(n): Kill file numbered (n)
- M: List file headers addressed to current user
- R(n): Read file numbered (n)
- U: List current user(s)+SSID
- W: Write a file

### A few short notes.

Mail can only be killed by either sender or addressee. No mail is personal so everyone can read every message. Only ASCII codes can be used apart from Ctrl Z to end a message. No digipeat function is available nor does it respond to a frame being digipeated. There is no command to log off. It must be disconnected by a TNC command.

Thanks to JARL for the above information, if you manage to work it please write and let me know.

### Deviation and Packet.

I mentioned a couple of months ago that deviation settings should be checked and kept to a maximum of 2.5kHz. It has been pointed out by many readers that this seems an impossible task without the use of very expensive equipment not readily available to the average amateur. To make life a bit easier the Scottish Digital Group, MacPac, have published in their magazine an article entitled Simple Deviation Setting, part of which I have reproduced.

The precise adjustment of FM deviation for packet use is far more critical than for voice operation. Manufacturers of "black box" transceivers usually design them to work with their own specified equipment, i.e. microphones.

It is well worth the effort to get packet deviation right because any packet that is not received correctly gets repeated, again and again. This increases congestion and slows down your throughput. The general rule of thumb for packet on 25kHz channel spacing as we have at present, is that the peak deviation should be half that of the system

## Monthly forwarding laagua.

After the first results were published a few messages appeared on my mailbox complaining that various stations appeared at or near the bottom, when they were only there due to station problems. Some SysOps, having now seen the full list, have asked the PWG for help in finding better routes. If you are at the bottom (I am very near it this month!) it may reflect

deviation, i.e. 2.5 kHz with the wrong levels these are the results you can expect.

Very low deviation: No modulation at all, or only one tone is sent.  
Low deviation: More noise than signal.

Correct deviation: It works!!  
High deviation: Frequency tolerance critical; noise operated Rx squelch circuits "dump" your signal.

Very high deviation: TX level clippers operate or wide signal is transmitted across adjacent channels.

Although very expensive test equipment makes the setting of deviation straightforward, it can be adjusted using a receiver and an oscilloscope.

Connect the oscilloscope to display the audio output of the monitor or receiver, then tune it to a local repeater output frequency. Adjust the 'scope so that a full screen display is produced by the repeater output when it is receiving a strong input signal. Leaving the oscilloscope settings, retune the receiver to your packet frequency.

Connect your packet transmitter to a dummy load and put your TNC into CALIBRATE mode so that it transmits a continuous sine wave that can be observed on the oscilloscope. (you may have to remove the jumper in the TNC that controls the watchdog timer, remember to replace it afterwards.)

Now adjust the TNC drive level and transmitter audio level control (if it has one) until the oscilloscope displays a maximum of half the output you observed from the voice repeater on either TNC tone.

If the tones show up with significantly different amplitudes it probably indicates that you need a simple RC filter in the transmitter audio input circuit or the monitor has a biased response. Try another receiver before blaming the transmitter.

Any responsible repeater group will have the deviation of its transmitter set to just below the maximum system deviation of 5kHz to avoid splattering across other channels. Your deviation set to half of their value will be just under 2.5kHz. The method is obviously not precise, but has a sufficient

equipment problems, but if you feel you may like some information about alternative routes drop me a line. Last month's times are shown in brackets. Next month I hope to be able to say why there is such a wide gap between the best and worst links.

### Top

G67CRG <> GB7CHS 14.5 mins (51)  
G67EYR <> GM7CYM 15.0 mins (NA)

### Bottom

G67GHU <> G67HIU 4343 mins (NA)  
ON4HU <> G67ZAA 4432 mins (NA)  
G67SUT <> G67SPV 8355 mins (8199)

degree of accuracy to improve the signal of most packet stations.

A full copy of the article can be obtained by writing to MacPac secretary 3 Woodhead Ave, Bothwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland, G71 8AR. Incidentally MacPac have also produced a very informative User Guide for the AA4RE Mailbox.

## Sorry...

I published in February, under the heading Mod of the Month, an article on how to modify a 2 metre transceiver for use with 9600 baud modems. Some correspondents observed that by publishing the modification the RSGB had advocated 9600 baud operation on the 144MHz band in this country. This is not the case. As this publication reaches 150+ countries, some of which do advocate the use of 9600 baud packet on 144MHz owing to their larger allocation on this band, I felt that there was no problem with publishing the modification. My apologies if you found this misleading.

## Who's who on the RSGB's Packet Working Group

The last time this item appeared it contained a number of errors (obviously not sent by packet!). Here is a corrected and updated list.

Chairman: Ian Stuart, GM4AUP (QTHR). Tel: 0236 65937. (SysOp GB7MAC)

Mailbox Coordinator: Neil Lasher, G6HIU (QTHR). (SysOp GB7HIU)

### Note this is a change

Site Clearance: Dave Hough, G4WRW (QTHR). (SysOp GB7FC)

### Other PWG members:-

G0/K8KA (GB3UP); G0EOJ (GB7YAX); G3VPF (GB3/GB7DP); G3XDV (GB7HQ); G4CCC (RMG); G4MTP (GB7DV); G8IMB (GB7IMB); G8KHV (GB7AP); G8LWY (GB3KP).

### Corresponding Members:

G1DIL, G3MRX, G3NRW, G3PLX, G3RUH, G3RWL, G3XTT, G3WDG, G3UBX, G4ASR, G6DLJ, G6KVK (TCP/IP address coordinator), G8ONH.

**MIKE DIXON G3PFR**  
'Woodslock', Grazebank, Norley,  
Warrington, Cheshire WA6BLL

## Developments at 10GHz

For some years now, narrowband developments at 10GHz have been somewhat static in the UK. Meanwhile, German developments in the field have gone to successful "hybrid" designs, using a combination of PCB techniques and "pill-box" resonators. Heavy use has been made of GaAsFets in these designs, both as amplifiers and active multipliers and mixers. Our German colleagues have had ready access to a bigger variety of GaAs devices - and at lower price than in the UK.

With the renewed interest created by the G4DDK designs for the lower microwave bands - principally easy-to-get-going, self-contained oscillator multiplier strips, the availability of MMIC amplifiers to about 3 or 4GHz and "surplus" GaAsFets (for example, Birkett), G3WDG and G4DDK have been working, with a high degree of success, on "UK" 10GHz designs.

Progress to date has resulted in 10GHz sources based on the DDK004 board (mentioned last month), followed by a MMIC amplifier and active (GaAsfet) quadrupler and filter to either 10224MHz for a receiver LO, or to 10368MHz for CW/TX or beacon use. The receiver LO can be quite easily made to yield 5mW or so at the mixer injection frequency, more than sufficient to drive an active (or passive) mixer. It also appears that it may be quite easy to build a 20dB RF "gain-block" with reasonable noise figure to precede the mixer. On the transmit side, it seems that between 50 and 100mW can be easily and economically obtained, a very potent level for devices such as beacons or as a driver for higher powered solidstate amplifiers to perhaps a Watt. Like the ads. say "We're getting there..." I keep your eyes open in the *Microwave Newsletter* for progress reports on Charlie and Sam's experiments.

A further spin-off of this work is that a few minor alterations have been made to the DDK004 design (not affecting the PCB mentioned last month) which improve the output from about +5 or +7dBm to +9 or +10dBm, a very worthwhile improvement. The most significant changes are to substitute a BFR91A for the BFG91A (which tends to be a little "lively") in the final multiplier, some rearrangement of trimmer positions in the final stage and some additional emitter decoupling in the remaining stages. Again, more details later.

## More on 10GHz TV repeaters

Feedback from RMG (Repeater Management Group) has brought to light a channel numbering system

which identifies the band concerned. For instance RMT has for some time indicated a TV repeater channel. It is proposed that the next digit(s) indicate the band and the last digit the channel number viz: on 1-3GHz, RMT1, RMT2 etc; 2-3GHz, RMT21, RMT22 etc; 3-4GHz, RMT31, RMT32 etc; 5-7GHz, RMT51, RMT52 etc; 10GHz, RMT101, RMT102 etc; 24GHz, RMT241, RMT242 etc. This is, of course, looking a long way ahead and recognising that some of the in-between bands are not wide enough to support in-band repeaters, although it might, at some time in the future, prove possible to enable cross-band experimental devices. Therefore, for the 10GHz channels mentioned last month, TV0, TV1 and TV2, now read RMT101, RMT102 and RMT103.

Sam, G4DDK has pointed out that although these channels are of nominal 10MHz bandwidth and 25MHz separation, the total bandwidth of such a transmission is likely to be around 30MHz, more than the channel separation. However, 10GHz repeaters are likely to be "neighbourhood" devices rather similar to the "MVDS" systems which various commercial organisations are talking about in the millimetre bands with a "normal service area" of up to perhaps 20km (depending on terrain and intervening obstacles). It is probably unimportant to change the channel spacing since the "reuse" distance is quite small under normal conditions and if should not be an impossible task to allocate operating channels by geographical separation to avoid problems. Nevertheless, there is a case for reconsidering the position, which will be done at the Microwave Committee's next meeting - now that the band is, at long last, beginning to fill with propositions! Dave, G4NJU, one of the RMG Special Project Co-ordinators, in passing on the channel nomenclature asked whether the Novice Licence will allow TV on 10GHz. The answer (subject to DTI approval, of course) is most definitely YES - of the microwave bands, 1-3 and 10GHz have been nominated and agreed in principle, no restriction on modes or antennas, but operation to bandplan essential. One of the main reasons for nominating these two bands is that they are practical for the beginner (especially 10GHz) and will encourage the use of wideband modes, such as TV, for "non-wired" video, data and control links. What better way for the beginner to become acquainted with simple equipment and techniques?

## Changes to IARU bandplans.

By the time you read this, the Region 1 Conference will be over

and the real work, leading up to WARC '92, will begin. I've had a few responses to the proposed IARU Region 1 bandplan changes which were mentioned in the March column. The first was from Steve Berry, G4LRT, who has been very active, in years gone by, on many of the microwave bands including 2-3GHz and 10GHz narrowband. Steve's response was against moving for a number of reasons. At 2-3GHz he points out that many (of the older - my words) designs for 2-3GHz were dimensioned for 2304MHz and could be made to work at 2320MHz but that 2400MHz might well be outside the operating range. The wideband nature of modern PCB designs rather negates this argument, as witness the range of the DDK designs! Also, everyone concerned will "have to fork out for new crystals AGAIN and leave the bottom of the band vulnerable to takeover". He also pointed out that 2400MHz is "closer to the microwave oven 2450+/-rubbish" and is in the space band where there are currently beacons in operation in space. "Please campaign for all countries to use 2320 or, even better, 2304MHz rather than have everybody move yet again - the same problems exist on 6 and 3cm".

Unfortunately it is highly unlikely that, in Region 1, we will ever again be able to use frequencies below 2310MHz and may have to face the fact that the only truly "common" area is around 2400MHz, in the space allocation which is currently world-wide. It also happens to be occupied by powerful (in some parts of the UK) professional signals as well as amateur satellites. Don't forget, too, that this part of the band was allocated to the amateur service long before the amateur satellite/space service came into being - we may even be forced into the position of claiming "squatters rights"!

Alan, G2HIO, taking a slightly different viewpoint, commented that getting going on Mode S was made difficult by the fact that the satellite frequencies are so far removed from the beacon frequencies (when using the conventional 144-146MHz IF) that he had to build a signal source especially to line up his equipment for best performance at 2400MHz. Had they been closer, one of the RSGB beacons could have been used - in Alan's case GB3LES near Leicester, Alan being near Derby. A move to just below 24GHz would, he maintains be most welcome, as it would immediately solve such problems and encourage people to use their satellite equipment for terrestrial uses as well, thereby stimulating local activity - similar reasoning to that used some years ago, when we recommended adjacency of NB and WB working on the 10GHz band! Alan mentioned, for those not familiar with current satellite

microwave activity, that Oscar 13 uses 2400-711 - 2400-747MHz, with beacons as follows: OS13 beacon 2400-660MHz, PacSat beacon 2401-1428MHz and Dove beacon 2401-2205MHz.

## The Winchester Round Table.

Ted, G4ELM, as usual sent in a very detailed report of the proceedings of the Winchester Round Table, held by kind permission of the IBA at their Crawley Court establishment. About 31 active microwavers were present.

The discussion theme was compass bearings, dish alignment and related topics, with an oft repeated presentation of their "standard" methods by Chris, G0FDZ and Alan, G8BJG.

Simon, G8KRD, gave a talk on the commercial exploitation of frequencies above 30GHz, necessarily "curtailed" by the sensitive nature of some of his employers work i.e. an interest in such frequencies.

Round Table discussions followed and centred on the 1990 Cumulatives and the use of various sites by almost all those present as they revealed their intentions for the forthcoming season. G0FDZ and G8BJG would be in Guernsey in July and G4EFT in May, offering an opportunity for rare 10GHz DX. F6DPH (with 5-7GHz also) and F8WN expected to be active again this season and various UK operators would be scattered across various popular sites, together with, perhaps, a few new ones. G4EFT, G2DSP and G4ETU indicated that they would also be operating on 24GHz, G3FYX has equipment for most bands and is happy to bring out any particular band on request. G4AUC could offer skeds on 3.4GHz, again on request. For more detail than possible here, see the *Newsletter* or contact G4ELM, OTHR.

The final discussion of the day, led by F8CUX, was on beacons, both formal and personal. GB3CMS, Danbury, reported here some time ago, had not yet been heard by anyone at the meeting, although GB3SWH and GB3IOW were reported as "healthy" and GB3ALD had not been heard since September 1989. The proposed Reigate beacon, GB3SEE, was at an advanced stage of development and a site had been found and agreed. G3YGF now had all the hardware for the "Basingstoke" beacon which he proposed to run as a personal beacon in the Salisbury area. G3JMY was running a multimode (on request) attended personal wideband beacon from near Bristol - Ted is OTHR.

Perhaps I should add that there have been interested enquiries for at least two other formal narrowband beacons, although the submissions have not yet been made.

**BDB TREACHER BRS 32525**  
93 Elbark Road, Eltham, London  
SE9 1QJ

Space is at a premium this month, so I shall apologise now if your offering is not included in this month's news.

### HF Challenge

Last year's Challenge was better supported, with nine logs for the SSB event, and three for the CW leg.

Once again, entrants felt that the idea of an SWL competition during a major contest was an excellent idea. As you would expect, the longer span by the rig, the higher the score. 28 and 14MHz were the bands to monitor with several entrants around the 100-country mark on both bands. Conditions for the SSB section were quite good and there was always something to take the mind off retreating to bed, or helping the wife with the chores!

The CW leg was actually blessed with three logs this year, representing a 50% increase on recent years. This year Robert Small BRS8841 got the better of Jean Jacques Varganian ONL-383, with Mike Parent BRS88763/568 coming home third. In the SSB section, Jean Jacques turned the tables, with a handsome victory. Full results are shown above.

### TSTL

Readers will remember me mentioning this a few months ago. Kazimierz SP9-3110-KA has written again, having moved to West Germany where he holds the SWL callsign of DE1KCG. He runs "The SWL Club" there and has promised to send details. Brief details for now are that the Club helps you find SWL penfriends, exchanging your SWL experience and comparison of results, and being able to claim some awards a little more cheaply than the usual 10 IRCs. Annual payment is 10 IRCs. You will get your own SWL Club Membership number, quarterly newsletters, a SWL Manager's Directory, and other services. Further details can be obtained from Kazimierz Czech, PO Box 200233, D-5060 Bergisch Gladbach, West Germany.

It is interesting to note that several TSWL members are also licensed. SP9LJD recently operated as 9N1MM, and PP1CZ was ORV from Trinidad Is signing Z20TA in early April.

### Being honest!

Every month I see some loggings from which I compile the "Spectrum Analysis" column that give me serious doubts about whether an SWL has actually heard the station he reports. I am, of course, referring to the trusty 3x3 report. I can understand why someone with an "average" set-up will be hearing stations at a reduced readability and signal strength compared to

SSB: POS'N	STATION	COUNTRIES	POINTS	TOTAL
1	ONL-383	496	1,272	630,912
2	BRS8841	382	957	365,574
3	BRS28198	224	502	112,448
4	BRS25209	229	488	111,752
5	SP9-3645-KA	140	316	44,240
6	BRS88763/568	84	199	16,716

Check Logs: BRSs32535, 62088, 88969

CW: POS'N	STATION	COUNTRIES	POINTS	TOTAL
1	BRS8841	260	660	171,600
2	ONL-383	195	441	85,995
3	BRS88763/568	84	230	19,320

other listeners who have a superior rig and antennas, but my concern is that some SWLs hear something in the noise — especially on 3.5MHz — and think they have heard a rare piece of DX — and haven't. It is all about being honest with yourself. It's the same as when you hear stations working in "lists" say "I OSL the 4X4", when you have heard the DX station state quite clearly "No copy".

Similarly, a score in the Annual Table very much depends on your criterion for having heard a station. Most of those who have been SWLs for any length of time will not count a country as heard unless they have heard the station give his own call, callsigns of stations being worked and the reports given to those stations. If every SWL adopted such a criterion for "hearing" a station we would quickly rid logs of the 3x3 report.

### 1989 UHF/VHF SWL Championship

Last year's Championship attracted six entries — slightly better than in 1988. Again it was a fairly close-run affair between the few listeners that enjoy UHF/VHF competitions. The winner was Martin Parry BRS52543 who entered six of the seven events and won the Hansen Trophy by a margin of over 1,200 points from yours truly, Mick Toms BRS31976 and Norman Hembrey BRS28198 were not far behind. The full results are shown below.

This year, with all VHCC contests having an SWL section, and fresh SWL rules for these events, the VHCC sincerely hope that there will be far greater support.

Pos'n	Station	Points
1	BRS52543	6,223
2	BRS32525	4,967
3	BRS31976	4,243
4	BRS28198	3,959
5	BRS25429	1,000
6	BRS37798	431

### ILA News

Trevor GW4OXB provided the latest news of the International Listeners Association. He had been busy sorting through return questionnaires from many members, some with interesting ideas to

**RONALD M COWAN, GM4SRL**  
516 Clarkson Road, Netherton,  
Glasgow G44 3RT

### Flooding

The weather so far this year has been one of the worst on record, affecting a large part of the United Kingdom. By March over six feet of rain had fallen on Oban in Argyll, and many other parts of the country were returning similar figures. Winds have been higher than usual, with gales being regularly forecast.

Many RAYNET groups were involved with the emergency services during this period. At 1100 on Thursday 25 January, Herts County Controller Trevor Groves, G4KUJ, received a call from the County Emergencies Planning Officer stating that Hertfordshire Police had requested that Herts RAYNET be put on standby. This was changed to a callout at 1600. The highways radio system had failed and RAYNET were asked to set up in the CEPO's Emergency Centra passing the Highway Department's traffic, (mainly from the north and east of the county) to and from the highways control. Owing to poor road links caused by fallen trees the net was not operational until 1800, but from then until 2130 RAYNET operated on behalf of CEPO. The three groups who were involved were Mid Herts., (called out) North Herts., (called out) and South West Herts. who were on standby and would have provided the night shift if required.

One of the worst hit areas was north Wales. RAYNET, under the leadership of Bob Cardwell, GW4PUX, Clwyd County Controller, provided communications for the police and the social services during the flooding which hit Towyn and Kinmel Bay from 26 February until 2 March. Eleven main stations were set up, most enquiries being from the North Wales Police Headquarters and the police incident room at Abergela from where information on the state of the tides and the sea wall was originated. Other information from these stations was mainly for the rescue workers including Mountain Rescue, RNLI and Air Sea Rescue.

Traffic passed included constant requests for information regarding the whereabouts of displaced residents, requests for dry clothing, blankets and toiletries. Messages were handled on behalf of the social services regarding housing and pet problems. There was third party traffic to the RSPCA and Animal Shelter. Requests were made regarding social security payments for evacuees who had left their homes without cash. The CEPO and EPOs regularly made use of the net in order to keep the emergency services up to date with the location of their officers and Mountain Rescue passed traffic to

the rest centres about incoming evacuees. The nets opened each day at about 1000 and continued until 0130 the next morning. The six RAYNET groups involved were West Clwyd, East Gwynedd, Anglesey, Hollymell, Powys and Wirral. Almost all of the communications was done on the 144MHz band without the use of talk-through facilities.

## Try a social evening

I have to thank John Gray, GW6ZUS, group secretary of West Glamorgan RAYNET for the following information from his area. The West Glamorgan group, according to John, has during the last five years turned itself from a group of licensed amateurs meeting in a pub to a most acceptable RAYNET group. The change started when British Red Cross group 100 invited RAYNET to a hang gliding event. Interest was aroused and with the patient help of several group controllers, G8TUX, G1BFB and G4KAW, the group has flourished and in 1989 aighteen user service events and two five callouts were undertaken. It had become apparent to the group that they only met their user services under rather formal conditions, for example planning meetings, exercisases, events, etc. Last winter it was decided, in an attempt to get to know everyone better, that they would host a social evening. John recommends that those who have never embarked on such a venture give it a try as the results were well worth the effort.

The guest list included British Red Cross (from both county and groups), CEPO, County Ambulance, Police Divisions, Coastguard, South Wales Cave Rescue, the National Trust Ranger and the county council Country Park Rangers, the Salvation Army, WRVS and representatives from two local CB clubs. The night chosen, 7 February, was one of the many during which West Wales was suffering the wilder attentions of the environment. Red warnings were in force on a number of rivers, high winds were causing havoc on both land and sea, and people were being advised on radio and television to stay indoors. Despite a number of late cancellations over 70 guests arrived and enjoyed an evening talking to each other on many subjects. The evening was so successful that a repeat performance is on the cards for next year. Well done, W. Glamorgan.

## 80 metre national controllers' net

I must first disclose a personal interest! Scottish stations have always had problems joining in on the Sunday nets at 0830 local time, and the national committee has been looking at several suggestions to overcome the problems of poor national coverage on 3.663MHz.

The problem is compounded some Sunday mornings by USB transmissions on the same frequency from a Scottish coast radio station. Several suggestions have already been received. These include splitting the net into two (north and south), splitting it into 40 and 80 metres, or using 80 metres for the news at 0830 and the net until 0900, and 40 metres for the 0900 news followed by the rest of the net. All suggestions would be welcomed by the national committee chairman, Philip Howarth, G3YAC QTHR.

## European Special Olympics

As I write this column, I am waiting to hear how many RAYNET operators will be provided with halls of residence hospitality by the games organisers. There are over 90 offers of operator help covering a variety of combinations of dates so far, but unfortunately the organisers have been unable to find a corresponding number of beds. About 125 operators will be required each day from 20-27 July, and offers of help, particularly from those who can arrange their own accommodation, would still be welcome on 041-637 4383. Mentally handicapped athletes from 30 countries, together with their volunteer helpers, will descend upon Strathclyde for the duration of the games. Norma Sunderland, whose husband Don, G8FHM, was an operator last year at the British Games in Leicester writes, "I have to admit that I was not really looking forward to the week as firstly I am not into amateur radio, and secondly have never had any experience of meeting mentally handicapped people, and was not sure how I would cope. Geoff Griffiths, G3STG, Leicestershire County Controller, was not only a mine of information, but also a perfect diplomat in the way he organised everyone and gave great encouragement and confidence. Apart from the games there was a good social programme, and a farewell party to which all were invited. After it was all over, it seemed to be an anticlimax to have to pack up to go home. It was a pity that there was not more time for a RAYNET get-together, but perhaps all would have taken the opportunity to sleep! Yes we did get tired, cross and frustrated at times, but yes, we did have a wonderful and rewarding time. It was great to meet everyone, especially the wonderful Olympians."

## Newletters

Thank you to all who have sent me county and group newsletters and also to those who have taken the time to send articles for this column. Anything for the July RAYNET column should be sent as soon as possible, and not later than 20 May, to the above address.

**ARTHUR GEE, G2UK**  
21 Romany Road, Oulton Broad,  
Suffolk NR32 8PJ.

We do not hear a lot about Japan's space activities over this side of the world, but they are as active in this field of technology as one would expect. They became the third country to launch a spacecraft to the moon, when their Musas-A spacecraft was recently launched from the Kagoshima Space Centre by their Institute of Space and Astronomical Science. The mission consisted of two spacecraft, one 140cm in diameter and 80cm high, the other, designated the lunar orbiter, was 40cm diameter and 37cm high and was attached to the main spacecraft. The two were injected into a 400x240km orbit around the earth and after two revolutions a solid fuel rocket motor was fired, putting the spacecraft into an elliptical orbit to pass within 16,000km of the moon. Then the main spacecraft released the lunar orbiter which fired its own rocket to place it in orbit. Scientific data was sent back to earth.

## Satellite update

In the field of amateur satellites Japan has been equally active, their first involvement being the JAS-1 satellite. Approval for the launch of this project was given by the Space Development Committee of their Prime Minister's Office in 1983 which agreed to launch from their H-1 launch vehicle which had been developed by NASDA — the National Space Development Agency of Japan, some time earlier; its construction was undertaken by the amateur satellite committee of JARL. The project took them five years to complete and JAS-1 was launched successfully on the 12 August 1986 from the NASDA Tanegashima Space Centre. This was quite a complex satellite providing transponder and data facilities, but, after three years of successful operation, it was terminated in November 1989 due to gradual decrease in power generation.

At the time JAS-1 was being built, a second satellite was constructed with the same communications configuration as a backup for JAS-1. On completion, this second satellite was 'moth-balled'. This was just a little larger than JAS-1 and ultimately became JAS-1b, which has just been launched and is now in orbit. The system configuration can be divided into three parts; the communication/operating system, the power supply system and the ancillary components. The communication/operating system which is the mission of the satellite, includes the analogue transponder, the digital transponder and the antennas. The power supply system consists of solar panels, nickel cadmium batteries and devices to control charging and discharging

the batteries.

JAS-1b was launched as a secondary load with MOS-1b on the H-1 rocket. This satellite's mission was to observe various points on the earth's surface which required it to be in a solar synchronous orbit at an altitude of 900km and an orbital inclination of 99 degrees. In this orbit, the sun is eclipsed by the earth for about 103 minutes. This means that power can only be supplied by the solar cells for about 69 minutes — during the remaining 34 minutes power must be drawn from the storage batteries. Unfortunately JAS-1b is small in size with a limited capacity of power generation so this orbit is not entirely satisfactory. Consideration had to be given to obtaining a more favourable period for power generation by raising the apogee of orbit of JAS-1b by several hundred kilometres above that of MOS-1b and thereby making the orbit slightly elliptical. However, JAS-1b has no thruster of its own and thus is incapable of changing its orbit. Extra thrust could be obtained by burning fuel remaining in the second stage of the H-1 rocket after separation from MOS-1b. Raising the apogee by 300km to 1200km would, about 150 days after launch, result in a drop in the eclipse ratio, i.e. the ratio of eclipse time to the orbital period, then from about day 300 to day 470, the satellite would be in a period of no eclipse. During this period, the power condition of the satellite would be improved. This means that passes of JAS-1b will be around local noon and midnight two or three times after separation from the rocket and this will shift gradually with variations of eclipse rate and when eclipse becomes zero, passes will be around dawn and twilight. Orbital predictions therefore look like being a bit tricky!

JAS-1 has 979 silicon solar cells, 2cmx2cm square, which produced an average of 6.5W at the beginning of their life. At this level continuous operation was not possible as the system was drawing power all the time from the storage batteries even when the satellite was in full sunlight. With JAS-1b, gallium arsenide solar cells were used, and the slightly larger size of JAS-1b increased the effective surface area enabling 11W of solar power to be generated. Another improvement over JAS-1 is that a ring-type turnstile antenna is used for uplink receiving, making antenna directing for the ground station easier and giving a more stable uplink signal. Even though polarisation of both receiving and transmitting antennas is circular it is anticipated that transmitting and receiving should be easily accomplished with linearly polarised antennas, as the loss should only be about 3dB.

At the time of writing, JAS-1b has been putting out good signals — particularly on CW.

# ICOM

## IC-751A HF ALL-BAND TRANSCEIVER



- **Amateur Bands 160m - 10m.**
- **General Coverage Receiver.**
- **105db Dynamic Range.**
- **100W Output (40w A.M.)**
- **32 Memories.**
- **Electronic Keyer.**
- **CW Semi/Full Break-in.**
- **HM36 Microphone.**

The ICOM IC-751A was created for the ham operator who demands high performance whether entering contests, chasing DX or just simply enjoying the shortwave bands. It is an all made solid state transceiver with a host of features designed for the crowded HF bands of today.

Additional features include 9MHz notch filter, adjustable AGC, noise blanker, RIT and XIT. A receiver pre-amp and attenuator provides additional control when required. The FL32 9MHz/500Hz CW filter is fitted as standard with CW sidetone on Rx and Tx modes. On SSB the new FL80 2.4Khz high shape factor filter is fitted.

The transmitter is rated for full 100% duty cycle with a high performance compressor for better audio clarity. With 32 memory channels and twin VFO's, scanning of frequency and memories is possible from the transceiver or the HM36 microphone supplied.

The IC-751A is supplied for 12v operation but can be used with either internal or external A.C. power supply. It is fully compatible with ICOM auto units such as the IC-2KL linear amplifier and the AT500/100 antenna tuners.

Options available:- PS35 internal AC power supply, PS15 external AC power supply, EX310 voice synthesizer, SMB desk microphone and SP3 external loudspeaker.

# Count on us!

## IC-726 HF/50MHz ALL MODE TRANSCEIVER HOT ACTION ON THE HF AND 50MHz BANDS

Now that the HF and 50MHz bands enter a period of intensity, conditions for long distance communications have never been better.



The new ICOM IC-726 is a compact, easy to use transceiver which covers the amateur bands from 1.8 to 50MHz. It can be used in your home, car and in portable locations on SSB, CW, AM and FM modes.

With minimal switches and controls enjoy uncomplicated operating for beginners or veterans alike. And ICOM have incorporated their superior DDS (Direct Digital Synthesizer) system, a feature that enhances PLL lock up times. The same feature is built into ICOM's state-of-the-art IC-781 advanced H.F. Transceiver.

Other features include a general coverage receiver, dual VFO's, band stacking registers, attenuator, pre-amp, noise blanker, RIT, memories and much more. R.F. output is 100W on the H.F. band and 10W on 50MHz band from separate antenna sockets.

An optional AH-3 H.F. Automatic Tuner will allow you to operate on the H.F. bands in any location. Just push the tuner switch on the IC-726 and the tuner automatically adjusts for a minimum VSWR. The tuner can match a 12M longwire across the 160-10M bands. Use the weather resistant AH-3

in your car (with AH-2b mount and whip) boat, at home or in the field.

### Options and Accessories:

<b>AH-3</b>	H.F. Automatic tuner
<b>AT-150</b>	A.F. Automatic matching tuner
<b>PS-55</b>	AC power supply
<b>CR-64</b>	High stability crystal
<b>FL-100</b>	CW narrow filter 500Hz
<b>FL-101</b>	CW narrow filter 250Hz
<b>SM6/SM8</b>	Desk microphones
<b>SP7</b>	External loudspeaker

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TO RSGB

B



**Design Style - 1**

RSGB logo in black and gold plus your call sign in gold

**Design Style - 2**

RSGB Logo In black and gold plus your name in gold

**Design Style - 3**

Your call sign in gold plus your name in blue

*Normal RSGB Mail Order Terms and Conditions apply, please see Mail Order Price List for details.*

**A** Lambswool Sweaters

Machine washable. Made in England. Gift boxed.

Colours: Maroon, Navy, Black, Red, White, Grey, Sky Blue, Yellow.

Sizes to fit chest: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44"

Price: £26.75

**B** Acrylic Sweaters

High quality. Machine washable. Made in England. Gift boxed.

Colours: Maroon, Navy, Black, Red, White, Grey, Sky Blue, Yellow.

Sizes to fit chest: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44"

Price: £19.50

**C** Acrylic Slipovers

High quality. Machine washable. Made in England. Gilt boxed.

Colours: Maroon, Navy, Black, Red, White, Grey, Sky Blue, Yellow.

Sizes to fit chest: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44"

Price: £18.35

**D** Shirts/Blouses

Shirts: White poly cotton.

Machine washable. Made in England. Long or short sleeves.

Order by collar size:  
14, 14½, 15, 15½, 16, 16½, 17, 17½, 18, 18½.

Blouses: White poly cotton. Machine washable. Made in England. Long or short sleeves. Sizes: S, M, L.

Price: £18.99

J



NEW FOR  
1990

K



NEW FOR  
1990

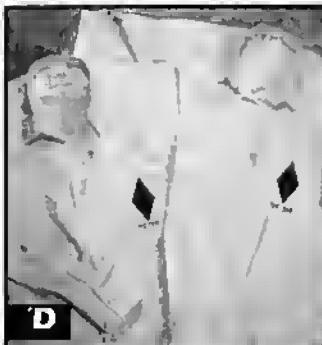
**E** Sweatshirts

Heavy quality fleece. Machine washable. Made in England.

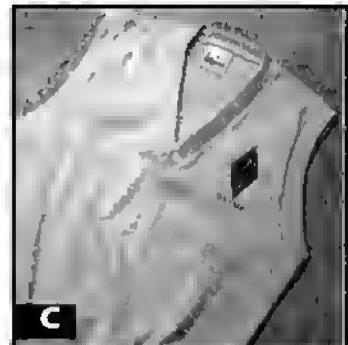
Colours: Maroon, Navy, Black, Red, White, Grey, Sky Blue, Yellow.

Sizes: S, M, L, XL.

Price: £13.75



D



C

**J** British Sports Shirts

Superior quality, short sleeve 65% polyester/ 35% cotton pique knit. 2 button neck, knitted collar. Machine washable.

Colours: Navy, Black, Red, White, Sky, Royal, Bottle Green, Lemon.

Sizes: Small(34/36"), Medium(38"), Large(40/42"), Extra Large(44/46").

These garments are not imported and will machine wash without losing (or gaining) shape.

Price: £15.95



E



A

**K** 'Breeze' Leisure Jacket

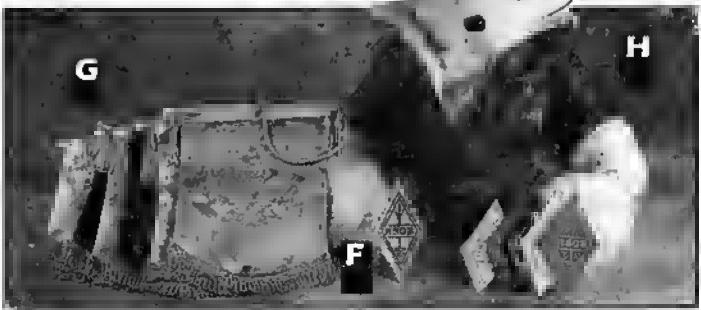
Good looking and comfortable 'wear anytime' zip up jacket. 2 pockets and one inside pocket.

Knitted cuffs and waist. Stand up collar. Poly/cotton fabric with nylon tilling. British made.

Colours: Navy, Red, White, Royal.

Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, Extra Large.

Price: £29.95



G



F

Exclusive to  
RSGB Members

**F** Sew on Badges

4½" long. Ready to sew on.

RSGB logo embroidered onto length of membership colours. (Please state number of years when ordering).

Price: £1.95

**G** Shack Banner

9x6" Ready to hang. RSGB logo plus your own call sign and

number of membership years embroidered onto length of membership colours. (Please state number of years when ordering).

Price: £7.95

**H** Ham Bear

18" Tall. Fully jointed collectors bear with headphones. RSGB logo and your call sign embroidered onto his jacket. Definitely not a toy. Made in England.

Price: £29.95

# CONTEST NEWS

## RULES

### 21MHZ CW CONTEST 1990 RULES

#### TRANSMITTING SECTION

1 General: All entrants should note that there is a change in the format used for the multiplier in this event. The UK County Code replaces the previous UK Prefix and overseas entrants should calculate their multipliers on the number of different county codes received from UK stations.

2 Eligible entrants: Overseas (including EI) - all licensed amateurs. British Isles - Class A licence holders, who must be members of RSGB. Single-operator entries only will be accepted.

3 When: 0700 to 1900gmt. Sunday 21 October 1990.

#### 4 Sections:

- (a) British Isles
- (b) Overseas (including EI)
- (c) British Isles ORP
- (d) Overseas (including EI) ORP

ORP stations may use 10W RF OUTPUT or less.

5 Frequency/Mode: 21MHz CW only. Entrants are requested not to operate in the band 21.075 - 21.125MHz.

6 Contest Exchange: RST and serial number, commencing with 001. UK stations must also send their County Code as listed at the end of these rules. No points will be lost if the full information cannot be obtained from a non-competing station, but any contest exchange sent by that station should be logged.

#### 7 Scoring:

(a) British Isles stations. Each completed contact with an overseas station will count 3 points. The final score is the total of QSO points multiplied by the number of countries worked. The ARRL Countries List will apply, with the exception that VO1, VO2, and VE, VK, ZL, JA and USA numerical call areas, irrespective of prefix, will all count as separate multipliers. Contacts with stations in the British Isles (excluding EI) will not count for points or multipliers.

(b) Overseas stations. Work only British Isles (excluding EI) stations. Each completed contact will score 3 points. The final score is the number of points scored multiplied by the number of different Countries worked. Contacts with stations using the special GB prefix will not count for points or multipliers.

8 Logs: Entries should be typed or written in ink on one side only of standard (A4) size paper or pre-printed log sheets, and should contain 40 QSOs per page. Columns to be headed: Time gmt; callsign of station worked; RST and serial number sent; RST and serial number received; multiplier (if new); points claimed. Computer-generated logs are welcomed provided they are labelled as above.

Duplicate contacts must be clearly marked and not claimed for points. Each unmarked duplicate contact found for which points have been claimed will result in the deduction of 33 points. Entries containing more than 5 such duplicates will be liable to disqualification.

Each entry must be accompanied by a cover sheet (HFC2 or equivalent) indicating

the section entered and power used, as well as the usual details of equipment and aerials. Also don't forget the operator's name and address! and a list of the multipliers worked.

Entrants making more than 80 QSOs are requested to include a check-list of the callsigns appearing in the log, sorted into alphabetical order and with either the serial number sent or the time of contact beside the callsign.

9 Declaration: Each entry must be accompanied by the following declaration, signed and dated: "I declare that this station was operated strictly in accordance with the rules and spirit of the contest, and I agree that the decision of the Council of the RSGB will be final in all cases of dispute." UK entrants must further state "I have no objection to the information from my log being entered into a computer for the sole purpose of the contest adjudication." (Data Protection Act).

10 Address for logs: RSGB HF Contests Committee, PO Box 73, Lichfield, Staffs, ENGLAND.

11 Closing Date for logs: British Isles entrants, 19th November 1989; Overseas entrants, 17th December 1989.

12 Awards: The leading British Isles station will be awarded the T.E. Wilson G6VO Trophy. Certificates of merit will be awarded to the second- and third-placed British Isles stations, and to the leading three overseas entrants. Additional certificates may be awarded (at the discretion of the HF Contests Committee) to the leading stations from each overseas continent/country.

#### RECEIVING SECTION

Rules as for the transmitting section except where specified below.

#### 2 Eligible entrants:

- (a) British Isles - RSGB members only
- (b) Overseas - all SWLs

Holders of transmitting licences for frequencies only above 30MHz may enter the receiving section.

7 Scoring: British Isles SWLs should log only overseas stations in contact with British Isles stations participating in the contest. Overseas SWLs should log only British Isles stations in contact with overseas stations participating in the contest. Scoring and multipliers as for the transmitting section.

11 Logs: Columns to be headed: Time gmt; callsign of station heard; report and serial number sent by that station; callsign of station being worked; multiplier; points claimed.

NOTE. In the column headed "station being worked" the same callsign may only appear once in every three contacts except when the logged station counts as a new multiplier.

Each entry should be accompanied by the following declaration, signed and dated: "I declare that the station was operated strictly in accordance with the rules and spirit of the contest and I agree that the decision of the Council of the RSGB shall be final in all cases of dispute. I do not hold a transmitting licence for frequencies below 30MHz." UK entrants must further state "I have no objection to the information from my log being entered into a computer for the sole purpose of the contest adjudication." (Data Protection Act).

12 Awards: Certificates of merit will be awarded at the discretion of the HF Contests Committee to the leading three entrants from the British Isles, and to the leading entrant from each overseas country.

## MULTIPLIER LIST FOR OVERSEAS ENTRANTS - UK COUNTIES

County	Code
Alderney	ALD
Co Antrim	ATM
Co Armagh	ARM
Avon	AVN
Bedfordshire	BFD
Berkshire	BRK
Borders	BDS
Buckinghamshire	BKS
Cambridgeshire	CBE
Central	CTR
Cheshire	CHS
Cleveland	CVE
Clwyd	CWD
Cornwall	CNL
Cumbria	CBA
Derbyshire	DYS
Devon	DVN
Dorset	DOR
Co Down	DWN
Dumfries & Galloway	DGL
Co Durham	DHM
Dyfed	DFD
Essex	ESX
Co Fermanagh	FMH
Fife	FFE
Mid Glamorgan	GNN
South Glamorgan	GNS
West Glamorgan	GNW
Gloucestershire	GLR
Wiltshire	GRN
Guernsey	GUR
Gwenll	GWT
Gwynedd	GDD
Hampshire	HPH
Hereford & Worcester	HWR
Herlfordshire	IIFD
Highlands	HLD
North Humberside	HBN
South Humberside	HBS
Isle of Man	ION
Isles of Scilly	IOS
Isle of Wight	IOW
Jersey	JER
Kent	KNT
Lancashire	LNH
Leicestershire	LEC
Lincolnshire	LCN
Greater London	LDN
Co Londonderry	LDR
Lolian	LTH
Greater Manchester	MCH
Merseyside	MSY
Norfolk	NOR
Northamptonshire	NHM
Northumberland	NLD
Nottinghamshire	NOT
Otley	OKE
Oxfordshire	OFE
Powys	PWS
Shropshire	SPE
Serk	SRK
Shetland	SLD
Somerset	SOM
Staffordshire	SFD
Strathclyde	SCD
Suffolk	SFK
Surrey	SRY
East Sussex	SXE
West Sussex	SXW
Tayside	TYS
Tyne & Wear	TWR
Co Tyrone	TYR
Warwickshire	WKS
Wessex Isles	WIL
West Midlands	WMD
Wiltshire	WLT
North Yorkshire	YSN
South Yorkshire	YSS
West Yorkshire	YSW

## 21-28MHZ PHONE CONTEST 1990 NOTE (CHANGE OF RULES):

All entrants should note that there is a change in the format used for the multiplier in this event. The UK County Code replaces the previous UK Prefix and overseas entrants should calculate their multipliers on the number of different county codes received from UK stations.

#### TRANSMITTING SECTION

Eligible Entrants: This contest is open to amateurs world-wide. UK entrants must be fully paid-up members of the RSGB.

1. Date and Times: Sunday 7 October 1990, 0700-1900 GMT (UTC).

2. Frequencies: 21150-21350kHz and 28450-29000kHz only.

Mode: Telephony only.

Sections: Single operator and Multi-operator. Single-operator entrants and those who receive no help of any kind during the contest. (The use of spotting nets, and similar prefix assistance is strictly forbidden.)

4. QSY (10 minute) Rule: An entrant who QSYs from one band to another and makes a scoring contact may not change bands again until at least 10 minutes have elapsed since the last scoring contact on the original band.

5. Exchange: RS report and serial number (commencing with 001). UK stations include their County Code in the exchange. Overseas stations contact British Isles stations only.

#### 6. Scoring:

(i) QSO Points: 3 points for each completed contact on either band. (The same stations may be contacted on both bands for QSO points and Multipliers).

(ii) Multipliers: UK entrants: Each DXCC country or prefix per list shown at the end of these rules. Overseas entrants: Each UK county will count as a separate multiplier. A full list of the UK county codes is shown on this page.

(iii) Total Score: The number of QSO points on each band are added together. The total number of multipliers on each band are added together. The final score is the total QSO points multiplied by the total multipliers.

(iv) Duplicate Contacts: These must be clearly marked.

Unmarked duplicate contacts will be penalized at a rate of 10 times the QSO value in addition to the loss of the points for the contact. Entries containing more than five unmarked duplicate contacts will normally be excluded from the contest.

#### 7. LOGS:

(i) Logsheet: To be in the IARU Region 1 (Brighton) format, (RSGB standard). These log sheets are headed: Date/Time (UTC), Callsign of station worked, RS and Serial No sent, RS and Serial No received, multiplier (if claimed), QSO points claimed. Every column must be completed for each contact and all contest exchanges must be recorded. (Overseas entrants must record the UK County Code received for the contact to count for points).

(ii) Band Logs: A separate log must be submitted for each band, together with

## CONTEST NEWS

a list of the multipliers claimed for each band. Note: Overseas entrants can obtain a sample RSGB log and summary sheet, by sending an addressed envelope to RSGB at the address shown for receipt of logs (Rule 8).

(iii) Duplicate Sheets: Entrants making more than 80 contacts are asked to submit a 'Dupe' sheet for each band showing a list of the callsigns worked in alphabetical order and with either the serial no. sent or the time of the contact appearing beside each callsign. Dupe sheets listing the callsigns worked in QSO or random order are of no value to the adjudicator and entrants are asked to sort calls in an Alpha-Numerical format.

(iv) Summary Sheet/Declaration: Each entry must be accompanied by the following declaration: 'I declare that this station was operated strictly in accordance with the rules and spirit of the contest and within the terms of my licence. I further agree that the decision of the RSGB Council shall be final in all cases of dispute. The sheet should also list the scores and the number of QSO's claimed for each band and the totals. UK entrants must further state 'I have no objection to the information from my log being entered into a computer for the sole purpose of the contest adjudication'. All entrants must state the Section (Single, Multiple Operator or Receiving) that they are entering.'

8. Closing Date for logs: Logs from UK entrants must be postmarked on or before 5 November 1990. Overseas entries must be received by 3 December 1990. All logs to be sent to RSGB HFCC, PO Box 73, Lichfield, Staffs, England.

### 9. Awards:

UK Single-operator Section: The overall UK winner will receive the Whitworth Trophy with Certificates of Merit to the second and third placed entrants. The Powditch Transmiling Trophy will be awarded to the entrant with the highest score on 20MHz.

Multi-operator Sections: A Certificate of Merit to the highest placed Group in each section.

Overseas Single-operator Section: Certificates of merit will be awarded to the three leading entrants.

## RULES FOR LOW POWER FIELD DAY 1990

Please note the altered contest exchange under Rule 7.

1. Aims: This contest is intended to encourage portable HF operation using ORP CW rigs powered by batteries or natural power sources.

2. Guidelines: The Guidelines for HF Contests, published in January 1990 RadCom, page 66, will apply.

3. When: Sunday 15 July 1990, 0900-1200 and 1300-1600 GMT.

4. Sections: (A) 10W RF output maximum, (B) 3W RF output maximum. All entrants must be RSGB members resident in the British Isles, and single- or multi-operator entries are permitted.

5. Frequencies: 3510-3560kHz and 7010-7040kHz, CW only. Both bands may be used during each session, and UK or foreign ORP or QRO stations may be contacted for points. A given station may be contacted once on each band for points.

### 6. Special conditions:

(i) The power for all parts of the station must be derived from batteries or natural sources such as solar cells or wind driven generators. Float charging batteries from petrol, gas or diesel driven generators is not permitted.

Subject to the decision of the RSGB HF Contests Committee, additional certificates will be awarded to the leading entrant from each country, provided that a score of at least 50 per cent of that of the overseas winner is achieved.

## RECEIVING SECTION

Rules as for Transmitting Section except as varied below:

Eligible Entrants: Any SWL, (UK entrants must be fully paid up members of the RSGB).

Scoring: UK SWLs may only log Overseas stations in contact with UK stations and Overseas SWLs may only log UK stations in contact with overseas stations. The same callsign may only appear once in every three contacts being logged, except when the station 'heard' provides a new multiplier.

Logs: Separate log for each band. Log sheets to be headed: Date/Time GMT, Call of station heard, call of station being worked, RS and serial no sent by station heard, multiplier (if new), points claimed. A summary sheet is required for each band showing the points and multipliers claimed. Each log must be accompanied by the following Declaration: 'I declare that this station was operated within the rules and spirit of the contest and that I do not hold a licence to transmit on frequencies below 30MHz. I further agree that the decision of the RSGB Council shall be final in all cases of dispute. UK entrants should also state 'I have no objection to the information from my log being entered into a computer for the sole purpose of the contest adjudication'.

Awards: The Metcalf Trophy will be awarded to the leading UK entrant. The Powditch Receiving Trophy will be awarded to the leading British Isles entrant on 28MHz (subject to there being a minimum of 5 contacts on this band). Certificates of Merit to the stations being placed second and third in the British Isles and to the three leading overseas entrants.

## MULTIPLIERS FOR UK ENTRANTS

Each DXCC country, except UK countries. For contacts with Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and USA, each district counts as a separate multiplier, e.g. JA1 (or JA1 etc), WI (or N1, K1, KA1 etc).

9. Documentation: Standard RSGB HF Contest Log Sheets (HFC1) should be used, although computer-printed logs are acceptable provided they follow the same formal (i.e. same column order, 40 contacts per page). Received county codes and RF output powers should be recorded in Column 5. Use separate sheets for each band. Duplicates must be clearly marked in the log and no points may be claimed (unmarked duplicates will be penalised at the rate of 10 times number of points claimed). An HF Summary Sheet (HFC2), with station and operator details and a signed declaration, must accompany every entry.

10. Address for entries: Logs and checklogs should be sent to 'HFCC c/o Dr G. Hinson, G4IFB, 41 Beechen Lane, Lower Kingswood, Surrey KT20 6RY' postmarked before 31 July 1990.

11. Awards: The Houston-Fergus Trophy will be awarded to the leading entrant in section A, and the Southgate Trophy to the winner of section B. Certificates will be sent to the first 3 entrants in each section and to the ORP Fixed station submitting a checklog giving the most points to QRP Portable stations.

## MESSAGE FROM THE VHFCC CHAIRMAN.

I would like to thank all those clubs, societies and individuals who have written to me with regard to Rule 16, VHF Field Day, or in fact any other matter regarding VHF contests, whether for or against changes mooted. It seems that I ask you the readers to comment on some of the items printed (albeit a little tongue in cheek), that it does have the desired effect, you write to me. Please continue to make your thoughts known to me or any member of the VHFCC. We do read your letters, and if possible we do try to implement the more useful ideas.

My thanks also go to all those who showed an interest in joining the committee, I have taken on a few more members both full end corresponding, it is possible that a few more may be required but those that have already applied will be on the "short list".

A complete list of VHFCC members is as follows: Full Members.

G4DEZ Chairman	G4PIO new
G4UJS Secretary	G8HHI
G4JLG	G8TFI
G4WAD	G8XVJ new
G4QUT also on VHF committee.	

### Corresponding Members

GM8MJV	G2HIF
G4KIS	
BRS32526 Bob Treacher	
G6LX HF Contests Chairman	
G3UBX VHF Committee Chairman	

The VHFCC members are all keen contesters, their ages range from early 20's through middle aged (me) to real OM's like Cliff G2HIF who have been contesting since I was a lad! The aims of the VHFCC are to adjudicate fairly any VHF/UHF/SHF contest sponsored or controlled by RSGB, and to offer help to those who feel that to "win" or do well in a contest requires the use of excessive power.

Brynn Llewellyn G4DEZ  
VHFCC Chairman.

## LOST POINTS IN VHF/UHF/SHF CONTESTS

If contestants wish, an "MOT" certificate can be provided by the adjudicator to show where points are lost in your entry. We hope that this may be of use to contesters whether new or old to the game. If required please send SAE and mark "MOT" required on the cover sheet G4DEZ.

## 432MHZ CW CONTEST

10 June, 0900-1700 GMT

Three sections: S Single Operator; M Multi-operator; L SWL.

General rules apply (but see above).

All entries to G4DEZ 110 South Avenue, Southend, Essex, SS24HU.

## 432MHZ FM CONTEST

10 June, 0900-1200 GMT

By popular demand!!!

Two sections: L SWL; O All others.

General rules apply (but see above).

All entries to G4DEZ (as above).

## 144MHZ LOW POWER

28 July, 1500-2300 GMT

Three sections: L SWL; Q Multi-operator; S Single operator

General rules apply (but see above, also remember rule 16).

County and Country multipliers will be used. Output power at the transmitter 25W PEP maximum.

All entries to G4OUT QTHR.

## 432MHZ LOW POWER

29 July, 0900-1500 GMT

Three sections: L SWL; S Single operator; M Multi-operator

General rules apply (but see above, also remember rule 16).

County and Country multipliers will be used. Output power at the transmitter 10W PEP maximum.

All entries to G4PIO QTHR.

## RESULTS

### 2ND 1.8MHZ CONTEST 1989 RESULTS

The popularity of this contest remains high and the HFCC is pleased to report an increase in UK entries. This appears to be despite the hardships suffered in the form of poor propagation coupled with high general band noise. To quote one entrant "First ever operation on 1.8MHz. Nots last band I've ever heard, I take my hat off to 160M contesters for their determination." As in the 1st 1989 event, UA9 stations were noticeable by their absence and the only DX activity from the west was VE1ZZ's appearance in one log. Whatever happened to the opening 10 stateside hel used to perk up the last hour?

It is encouraging to note the efforts made by an increasing number of contesters to make their antennas more efficient. Dipoles with apex heights varying from 60 to 90 feet were used at several stations and one entrant had even utilised his local church steeple. There was a spread of standard transceiver equipment, the main requirement being high skirt selectivity and good close-in dynamic range. A 500Hz filter is a must and the additional receiver facilities provided by modern equipment are most useful when the going gets tough.

The winner of the Victor Desmond Trophy this year is Chris Burbanks, G3SJ, and in second place is new entrant Vic Lindgren, G4BYG. Top Scottish entrant is Barry Beggs, GM3YEH, again a welcome newcomer to this event, with possibly an eye on lifting the Mailland Trophy.

When a member of the HFCC is scheduled to adjudicate a contest he has entered and appears to be in an award-winning position, it is customary for the checking to be carried out by a sub-committee. The

procedure was of course adopted for this event.

As usual for the 1.8MHz series of contests, logs were well presented with the exception of a few un-marked duplicates which crept in.

H.F.C.C.

### BRITISH ISLES SECTION

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points
1	G3SJY	176	64	837
2	G4BYG	157	60	768
3	GW41019	147	62	748
4	G3OLB	134	58	692
5	G3TBK	127	57	655
6	GM3YEH	116	57	638
7	.G4BUE	120	55	603
8	G4HTD	114	52	601
9	G2MJ	99	52	555
10	G3ZGC/P	105	47	549
11	GM3RAO	87	50	510
12	G3SQX	63	43	463
13	G4OGB	63	41	454
14	G3K2R	60	43	453
15	G3MCX	74	44	441
16	G3VYI	77	42	440
17	G4COP/P	83	38	438
18	G3YLG	78	41	437
19	GQJNZ	76	42	435
20	G3LET	81	38	427
21	G4ERW	75	40	424
22	G5MY	72	40	414
23	GM3JUM	69	41	412
24	G3TXF	73	36	406
25	GW3JI	62	37	369
26	GM3NCS	86	45	355
27	G4ARI	81	33	347
28	G4BUU	59	34	346
29	G4CZB	55	35	340

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points
30	G3GLL	55	34	336
31	G4HUP	53	33	318
32	G2HLU	54	30	312
33	G4BK1P	49	31	300
34	G3HKO	47	31	296
35	G3SKC	44	31	287
36	G3FWW	41	32	276
37	G3NKS	40	31	275
38	G3ZRZ	43	32	259
39	G4EBK	41	26	253
40	G3LIK	36	26	237
41	GMAOBK	32	24	192
42	G3UNM	20	19	149
43	G4FB	17	13	116
44	GW4KVJ	11	9	78

### OVERSEAS SECTION

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points
1	DLSJQ	62	35	360
2	DLBBAV	45	29	275
3	OK1DRO	40	27	251
4	OK1KYY	38	26	239
5	DJ3ZX	33	25	219
6	E19FK	41	23	207
7	DL1ZO	30	22	168
8	LY3BO	18	17	130
9	UC2CBR	20	17	126
10	LA1IE	15	13	109
11	OL1BVR	14	12	100
12	UV3AFB	12	12	85
13	OL7TG	11	8	71
14	OK2PCN	9	6	49

\* = Certificate winner.

† = (GW3NYY)

Checklogs gratefully received from GM3PFQ, G3BFM, UZ3DWX, UC2L0W, UC2LB, UA4YBV, UB5-075-145.

### 21 MHz CW CONTEST 1989 RESULTS

Conditions were reported down for this year's event. This was reflected in the scores and was undoubtedly responsible for the tailing-off in the number of DX entries received (particularly from JA and VK/ZL). Support from Europe continued its increase, and most notable was the booming popularity of the QRP sections, entries for which were almost double the number received in 1988.

Once again Ron Stone GW3YDX heads the field -- is there anyone out there who can beat this man? Congratulations to Phil Callcott GM4QBK who takes the runner-up position in his first ever event from a new country (especially since his antenna system was completed only days before the event) and to Al Stalter G3FXB, this year relegated to third place. In the QRP section G4BK1 leapt from the narrowest of margins over G4EDG, with G4ELZ in third place.

The standard of logs received was (as

appears the rule for this contest) very good, with almost all the UK entrants including a full checklist in alphabetical order, which helps the checking enormously. There were some problems with the scoring system, particularly among the newer entrants, of whom several will find that their scores have dramatically increased and the LY prefix was missed as a new multiplier by quite a number. The adjudicator feels that a special mention is due to Dave Lawley G4BUU, whose log could not be faulted and was the highest-placed (5th overall) of a goodly number of error-free entries.

There were several comments from overseas stations regarding the lack of UK multipliers available — indeed, GO, GI, GJ, GU — where were you? Accordingly the multiplier system for the 1990 event will, as an experiment, be based on the UK countries list. Comments on the changes (or the rules in general) etc always welcomed.

G3UFY

Posn	Call	QSOs	Mults	Freq	Score
1	GW3DX+	738	85	180965	
2	GM4OBK	685	84	171276	
3	G3FXB	578	88	151688	
4	G3LET	564	87	145551	
5	G4BUU	565	83	140685	
6	G3HTE	572	80	137040	
7	G3TXF	561	81	135999	
8	G3NKS	551	80	132240	
9	G3KDB	548	80	131520	
10	GM3YOR	555	77	128205	
11	G3TBK	512	79	123444	
12	G4ODV/P	490	77	113190	
13	G0IVZ	448	77	103488	
14	G3GLL	427	74	94794	
15	GM3YEH	426	66	84744	
16	G3VYI	388	72	83592	
17	G0JFX/P	384	72	82944	
18	G3SWH	356	69	73692	
19	G4KGK	355	67	71355	
20	GM3GFS	332	70	69720	
21	G5MY	329	65	63950	
22	GW3HGJ	359	66	63954	
23	G3LHJ	347	62	62310	
24	G3KZJ	320	64	61440	
25	G4UZN	309	66	61182	
26	G3OLU	334	64	60864	
27	G3MPB	307	60	55260	
28	G2OT	284	62	52824	
29	G4DQW	278	63	52542	
30	G4LZB	273	62	50778	

### UK TRANSMITTING ORP

Posn	Call	QSOs	Mults	Freq	Score
1	G4RX	259	62	47802	
2	G3ESF	244	63	46116	
3	G0CELP	269	54	43578	
4	G3NKG	275	55	43230	
5	G2AFV	243	58	42282	
6	G4OOT	238	54	38340	
7	G4R01	237	53	37683	
8	G4IOM	216	53	34344	
9	G0LLT	223	48	32112	
10	G0CGV	187	51	28611	
11	G0PKX	162	50	27150	
12	G3AWR	149	51	22797	
13	G4ZYH	151	37	16761	
14	G4HZV	131	41	15890	
15	G4PTE	115	39	13455	
16	G3WRH	94	40	11160	
17	G4ZME	83	36	6856	
18	G0KJV	78	29	6785	
19	G2HDR	63	29	5481	
20	G4OKN	62	27	5022	
21	G0KJN	59	20	3540	
22	G6NK	49	24	3520	

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points
9	G3HJF	121	40	14520
10	G4WUS	125	36	12960
11	GW3SB	109	36	11654
12	G0HGA	131	28	9828
13	G4SXE	105	31	9765
14	G3FZG	32	16	1538

### OVERSEAS TRANSMITTING ORP

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points
1	LZ1KXA*	185	16	8688
2	LZ2AP*	152	17	7582
3	LZ2AX*	161	14	6762
4	UTSUGR*	161	14	6636
5	VE7CC*	141	15	6345
6	SN29/G3GJQ*	147	14	6174
7	LY2BZ*	145	14	6090
8	RB5QW	144	14	6006
9	UZ1TWB*	148	13	5772
10	UA6HPW	140	14	5712

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points
11	LZ1KVZ	151	12	5364
12	UA1NDR	149	12	5364
13	K5MM/7*	126	14	5292
14	NM2Y	143	12	5148
15	N4AR	132	13	5148
16	EAB8AB*	137	12	4932
17	K3ZO	135	12	4824
18	LZ2KAC	145	11	4785
19	JAT5N'	120	13	4580
20	UR1RXB*	140	11	4220

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points
21	UR2QA	128	12	4088
22	UW3AFA*	117	13	4563
23	LZ1MG	160	11	4488
24	UA1AJA	123	12	4426
25	UB5FAN	135	11	4389
26	HA5AWH	136	11	4323
27	SM0BVO	123	11	4059
28	UQ2GRX	118	11	3861
29	UZ3DWX	115	11	3762

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points
30	OK1TW	117	11	3707
31	UA3QOB	110	11	3597
32	HA1SL	119	10	3570
33	R84JF	120	10	3510
34	RA4AA1	124	10	3450
35	HA2KSD	101	11	3333
36	YO9AGI	111	10	3320
37	WD1MD	110	10	3300

Posn	Callign	Valid QSOs	Bonus QSOs	Total Points



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**19B9 432 MHZ CUMULATIVE CONTEST RESULTS**

The 1989 Cumulatives were well supported by the regular 432 MHz operators, and every competing station was active for all four sessions. Nobody said they wanted 5 sessions, however. Activity in the North was reported higher than expected, that in the South lower. The remedy for low activity is of course in the hands of the reader, but it is a pity that more amateurs do not use this enjoyable and well-disciplined band. In fact, between 90 and 130 stations were active during sessions 1, 2 and 4 and almost 200 in session 3, so that most people only work a small proportion of the active stations. Perhaps we expect 432 MHz to behave like 144 MHz in every respect. Session 3 gave excellent DX conditions to some SW stations. G8NEY/P expressed amazement at making 101 contacts, but the further N and E you were, the worse condi-

tions became. G4NTY and G1NXS in IO83 didn't notice the DX at all, and GD6ICR found only high band noise, despite making a much higher score than in the other sessions. The rules confuse most stations, judging from the varied paperwork which accompanied the logs. Producing clear rules has obviously defeated the committee. Can anyone suggest how to improve matters? It is of paramount importance if we are to increase support for contests. Congratulations to GD6ICR, the winner of the fixed station section, and to G8NEY and G4GCM (G8NEY/P), the winners of the "All Others" section. Congratulations also to G4JNZ, the runner-up in the fixed section. All will receive certificates. Thanks also to all stations who took part, increasing the enjoyment for everybody.

G4JLG

and the station, and by the look of him any additional he had at the start had long gone.

Station 'B', G4CFG/P, was located very close to the start on the southern edge of Bulbage Wood. The operator made use of the wire fence running round the perimeter of the wood as the aerial. The Tx power was attenuated by experiment to give the right signal strength at the start. A piece of wire was used to join two parts of the fence where a footbridge crossed the boundary of the wood. This was very carefully concealed so that competitors walking over the bridge could not see it but could hear a crashing signal when the transmitter was on. Chris Plummer was listed in this station followed very closely by Dave Holland.

Station 'C', G4KZU/P, was hidden approximately 8km north of the start in a wood, south-west of Newbold Verdon. Approximately 1 km of the wire was strung in and around the wood to give the competitors plenty to think about. This proved very successful with competitors trudging about the wood for some considerable time. The station was hidden under some fallen trees and, with the help of an assistant, the 'hide' was well camouflaged. Trevor Gage was the first in here, but in the process of getting his log signed, other competitors spotted him and several came in seconds afterwards. The unfortunate operator then had the unenviable task of trying to kill in several forms and the check log all at the same time. There is nothing like the enthusiasm of some competitors to keep the operator on his toes.

A total of 56 exhausted competitors and team members sat down to tea at the Coventry ARS HQ where Alan Bennett on

behalf of the RSGB, presented the winner, Alan Simmonds, with the RSGB trophy. The winner and second placed competitor, Chris Plummer, then gave graphic accounts of their afternoon's escapades and thanked the Society for organising the event and the XYLs for preparing the tea.

Afterwards, Mike Hawkins presented George Whentham with the Bert Simmonds Memorial Rose Bowl, which is awarded to the competitor who has gained the most points during the eight qualifying rounds; points being awarded in the 'grand prix' format.

**RESULTS OF BERT SIMMONDS MEMORIAL ROSE BOWL**

POSITION	CLUB	POINTS
1. G Whentham	Coventry	28
2. T Gage	Mid-Thames	25
= B Blitow	Mid-Thames	25
4. C Plummer	South Manchester	16
5. A Collie	Chelmsford	13
6. A Simmonds	Mid-Thames	11
7. D Holland	South Manchester	9
= G Foster	Stallord	9
= P Clark	Chelmsford	9
= M Hawkins	Chelmsford	9
11. C Wells	South Manchester	7
12. B Poole	Mid-Thames	6
= P Cunningham	RSGB	6
14. J Butson	Colchester	5
= P Lisle	Mid-Thames	5
= D Newman	Northampton	5
17. M Standen	Mid-Thames	4
18. C Merry	Dartford Heath	3
19. A Mead	RSGB	2
20. I Morrison	South Manchester	1
= W Peckey	Mid-Thames	1
= P Laibalester	Dorset	1

**SINGLE OPERATOR SECTION.**

POS	CALL	SCORE	LOC	ANT	DBW	13th	29th	14th	30th	BEST DX
1	GD6ICR	3000	74PF	21	20	401	338	636	390	523
2	G4JNZ	2513	91LC	21	25	303	281	456	361	575
3	G6HKM	2014	01FT	23	20	255	224	517	335	461
4	G4NPH	1872	02BI	4X17	18	194	217	406	231	509
5	G4DEZ	1745	01IN	18	17	188	225	194	238	468
6	G4ERG	1451	93SR	21	23	197	159	267	181	734
7	G4NTY	1186	03TM	21	20	155	136	187	155	354
8	G1HLT	948	05KD	48	15	134	82	236	91	265
9	G4LDR	800	91CD	17	17	138	70	4	97	422
10	G1NXS	743	03RK	17	14	197	92	107	107	303
11	G3JJZ	525	01AN	19	14	33	59	105	72	430
12	G0FKY	508	00XS	21	15	26	41	99	90	607
13	G7ODT	179	03XN	19	10	4	9	35	38	189

**ALL OTHER STATIONS SECTION.**

POS	CALL	SCORE	LOC	ANT	DBW	13th	29th	14th	30th	BEST DX
1	G8NEY/P	3000	80WY	2X21	20	371	251	1241	489	820
2	GW0MGR/P	2449	03JA	2X19	17	251	288	917	347	768
3	G1LII	627	91RD	4X8	15	48	87	265	152	581

**DECEMBER 1989 70MHZ CW CONTEST**

The CW contest on 70MHz took place in December. In average conditions for the time of year, several stations commented on increased activity for the mode of operation.

EI6FK was plagued with local electrical noise and hence despite being best DX for several stations, must have lost a few high scoring QSO's in the last hour of operation.

Combining that with logging errors on three contacts cost him the 1st place, which went to GW4BVY/P. Congratulations to those two stations as certificate winners, and also to all other participating stations who braved the 8am start. We will try to put it back one hour next year as per your requests.

G8HHI

POS	CALLSIGN	SCORE	QSO'S	LOC	BEST DX	KM
1	GW4BVY/P	243	36	IO81NV	GM4OIJ	451
2	EI6FK/P	236	21	IO83WC	GM4PN	490
3	G3UKV	175	30	IO82RR	GM4DJU	359
4	G3JYV	161	19	IO84SN	GM3PBM	420
5	G5RS/P	154	28	IO81TF	EI6FK/P	443
6	G3TCU	114	18	IO81QE	EI6FK/P	432
7	G3LVP	111	23	IO81WV	EI6FK/P	240
8	G3BPM	84	13	IO80OW	G3APY	266
9	G4OUT	53	17	IO92AT	EI6FK/P	280
10	G3NKS	50	12	IO81XU	G3JYV	302
11	G5UM	28	7	IO82MP	EI6FK/P	350
12	G4AGO	15	5	IO81OF	GW4BVY/P	161

Checklog gratefully received from GW4ALG.

**RSGB NATIONAL DF FINAL 19B9**

The 1989 DF National Final took place on a bright sunny Sunday afternoon on 24 September. 18 competing teams took part, comprising 17 qualifiers from the 8 regional events plus last year's national champion who has automatic right to defend his title.

The event was organised on behalf of the RSGB by the Coventry ARS and was covered by the Leicester & Coventry Ordnance Survey map. The start was near the centre of the map at Bulbage Common and Wood. Most teams contained a full compliment of four, some of whom were friends who had not managed to qualify in their own right. This meant that some very experienced and formidable teams were competing which gave the organisers plenty of work to do to make the event difficult.

Station 'A', G4MDF/P, was located approximately 14km south of the start, on a disused railway embankment, north-west

of the village of Draycott. There was a considerable length of aerial wire running along the railway track with several 'tees' taken off to confuse the competitors. One of these 'tees' ran under a very narrow muddy culvert and ended up at a voice-operated tape recorder. This cunning little device was designed to聆听 the poor competitor up the culvert thinking he was talking to the transmitter operator. All went well for the first 3/4 hour, much to the amusement of the transmitter operator who was near the other end of the culvert and could hear every unmentionable word when the penny finally dropped. However, the tape eventually ran out so later competitors missed out on this little diversion. First in was Colin Melville but it was some time before the rest of the competitors managed to locate the transmitter. One competitor who shall remain nameless took well over an hour to

find the station, and by the look of him any additional he had at the start had long gone.

Station 'B', G4CFG/P, was located very close to the start on the southern edge of Bulbage Wood. The operator made use of the wire fence running round the perimeter of the wood as the aerial. The Tx power was attenuated by experiment to give the right signal strength at the start. A piece of wire was used to join two parts of the fence where a footbridge crossed the boundary of the wood. This was very carefully concealed so that competitors walking over the bridge could not see it but could hear a crashing signal when the transmitter was on.

It is obvious that people have forgotten what this band was like before the rise in sun activity reduced it to the squalor of the

HF bands. One competitor commented on the number of operators working either on or close to the nominal frequency for DX working.

If this contest is run again, consideration may be given to selecting an operating zone way from this frequency. GM4AFF had a very frustrating time, being able to hear many southern stations but unable to raise them.

Congratulations go to the two certificate winners, G3XBY as leading fixed single-op and GW4UJS/P as leading all other stations. Thanks to them and all the others who made the effort.

G4WAD

POS	CALLSIGN	PTS	OSOs	LOC	PWR	ANT	BEST DX	KM
1	GW4UJS/P	348	44	83JA	8	6Y	G3YYF	-
2	GW4BVY	344	50	81NV	10	2X5Y	GM3WQJ	-
3	G3XBY	266	50	92DG	10	4Y	PA3OYS	452
4	G5RS/P	256	40	91TF	6	6Y	GM3WQJ	765
5	G4BLX	244	38	90WV	20	5Y	G3UVR	338
6	G3UKV	237	38	82RR	10	5Y	GM3WQJ	569
7	G3KNU	97	17	93ON	20	2Q	G5RS/P	259
8	G4HUP	87	14	02PD	10	5Y	GW3MFY	340
9	G5SUM	53	14	92MP	8	4Y	G4BLX	195
10	G1SMD	34	6	90AR	12	DIP	GW4UJS/P	288
11	GM4AFF	9	3	87VA	10	5Y	GM4XQJ	147

Check Log received with thanks from G3BPM

**RSGB LISTENER CONTEST 90 RULES****OBJECT OF THE CONTEST**

To log as many stations in OSO as possible. Operation is over 24 hours but only 18 hours may be operational during the 24 and a continuous 6-hour rest period clearly marked in the logs.

**DATE AND TIMES**

1200 gmt 7 July to 1200 gmt 8 July 1990.

**SECTIONS AND BANDS**

(a) SSB only

(b) CW only

Only one section may be entered - mixed-mode entries will not be accepted. The 28, 21, 14, 7, 3.5 and 1.8MHz bands may be used. Please note that entrants from the British Isles must be members of the RSGB.

**SCORING**

For scoring purposes the station logged must be in OSO with another amateur station. It does not matter whether the station is taking part in a contest or not. CQ, ORZ or similar calls cannot be counted for scoring. One point to be claimed for each station heard on each band. A multiplier may be claimed for each different country heard on each band. In the case of the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Japan, each call area numbered prefix may be claimed as a separate multiplier, for example: W1, W2, VE2, VE3, VK5, VK6 and so on. All other countries will be determined by the ARRL Countries List.

The final score is made up by the addition of the points scored on all bands multiplied by the total number of multipliers claimed on all bands.

**LOGS**

Logs should show in columns, time (gmt), callsign of station heard, callsign of station being worked, on RS(T) report or station heard at SWL, multiplier (if any), points claimed. If both sides of a contact are heard, they may be claimed as separate stations, and the callsigns are to appear in the station heard column. Each station heard can only appear once in the station heard column on each band. In the column for station worked, a callsign must only appear once in every three contacts logged (1 in 3) unless it is a new multiplier for the receiving station. The same 'station worked' may not be used for more than three successive multipliers.

Logs should be submitted with each band listed on separate sheets, 28MHz on one sheet, 21MHz on another and so on. A separate sheet listing all multipliers for each band should also be included.

Duplicate loggings for which points have been claimed will be penalised at 10 times the correct value.

**ADDRESS FOR ENTRIES**

R A Treacher, BRS32525, 93 Elbank Road, Eltham, London SE9 1QJ, England. Entrants should ensure their entries are postmarked no later than 6 August 1990.

**AWARDS**

Certificates will be awarded to the leading three entrants in each section in the British Isles section provided there is a minimum of 10 entrants. A certificate will be awarded to the leading station in each country in the overseas section provided that station scores at least 50% of that section winner's score.

**CONTESTS CALENDAR****RSGB HF CONTESTS**

3 May	1st 28MHz Cumulative (Feb 90)
11 May	1st 28MHz Cumulative (Feb 90)
13 May	Salisbury DF (Apr 90)
18 May	County Roundup SSB (Mar 90)
20 May	County Roundup CW (Mar 90)
2,3 June	HF National Field Day (Feb 90)
10 Jun	Mid-Thames DF (Apr 90)
23, 24 Jun	Summer 1.8MHz (Apr 90)
24 Jun	Banbury DF (Apr 90)
7, 8 Jul	SWL (May 90)
15 Jul	Low Power Field Day (May 90)
15 Jul	Ripon DF
29 Jul	Chelmsford DF
19 Aug	Coventry DF
26 Aug	ROFOCO 2
1, 2 Sep	SSB Field Day
9 Sep	Torbay DF
10 Sep	2nd 28MHz Cumulative
18 Sep	2nd 28MHz Cumulative
26 Sep	2nd 28MHz Cumulative
30 Sep	DF National Final
4 Oct	2nd 28MHz Cumulative
7 Oct	21/28MHz Phone Contest (May 90)
12 Oct	2nd 28MHz Cumulative
21 Oct	21MHz CW Contest (May 90)

**RSGB VHF CONTESTS**

5,6 May	432MHz Trophy & SWL (Apr 90)
5,6 May	434MHz to 24GHz (Apr 90)
6 May	10GHz Cumulatives (Jan 88)
19,20 May	144MHz & SWL (Apr 90)
10 Jun	10GHz Cumulatives (Jan 88)
10 Jun	432MHz CW Single Multi/SWL (May 90)
10 Jun	432MHz FM Fixed & Open (May 90)

7,8 Jul VHF Field Day (Apr 90)

22 Jul 10GHz Cumulatives (Jan 88)

28 Jul 144MHz Low Power/SWL (May 90)

29 Jul 432MHz Low Power/SWL (May 90)

All Aug 432MHz Activity

12 Aug 1.3 & 2.3GHz Trophies

19 Aug 10GHz Cumulatives

All Sep 129MHz Activity

1,2 Sep 144MHz Trophy/SWL

9 Sep 10GHz Cumulatives

16 Sep 1.3 & 2.3GHz Trophies

30 Sep 50MHz CW

6,7 Oct 432MHz - 24GHz SWL & IARU

7 Oct 10GHz Cumulatives

9 Oct 1.3 & 2.3GHz Cumulatives

17 Oct 432MHz Cumulatives

21 Oct 70MHz CW

25 Oct 1.3 & 2.3GHz Cumulatives

2 Nov 432MHz Cumulatives

3,4 Nov 432MHz CW 8-hr Marconi/RSGB

10 Nov 1.3 & 2.3GHz Cumulatives

2 Dec 144MHz AFS/Fixed/SWL

4 Dec 432MHz Cumulatives

There will be an SWL section in every VHF contest even if not mentioned in rules

**OTHER CONTESTS**

FirsI Tuesday each month

144MHz Scandinavian VHF/UHF/SHF Activity Contest (Jan 89 VHF/UHF)

FirsI Thursday each month

432MHz Scandinavian VHF/UHF/SHF Activity Contest (Jan 89 VHF/UHF)

First Monday each month

Microwave Scandinavian VHF/UHF/SHF Activity Contest (Jan 89 VHF/UHF)

Dates of publication of rules in RadCom are shown in parentheses

# RSGB CONTEST LOGSHEETS

These are essential for anyone who intends to enter any RSGB contest, and very useful for other contests too.

The hf contest logsheet pack consists of one hundred logsheets and ten cover sheets and is for contests involving frequencies between 1.8 and 30MHz.

The vhf contest logsheet pack consists of one hundred logsheets, ten cover sheets, and ten multiband summary sheets. This pack is for contests involving frequencies of 50MHz and above.

These contest logsheet packs are available from RSGB Headquarters for a modest charge. Don't be disqualified from your next contest for using the incorrect stationary.

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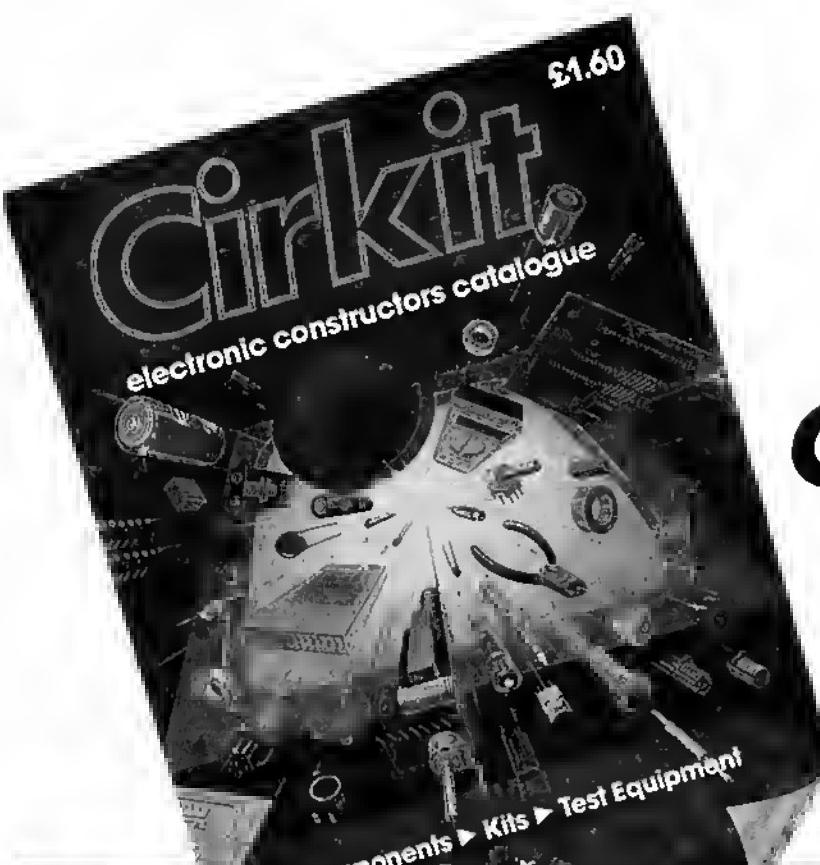
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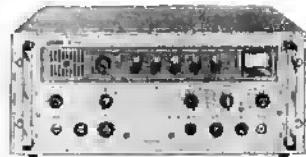
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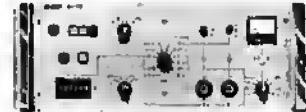
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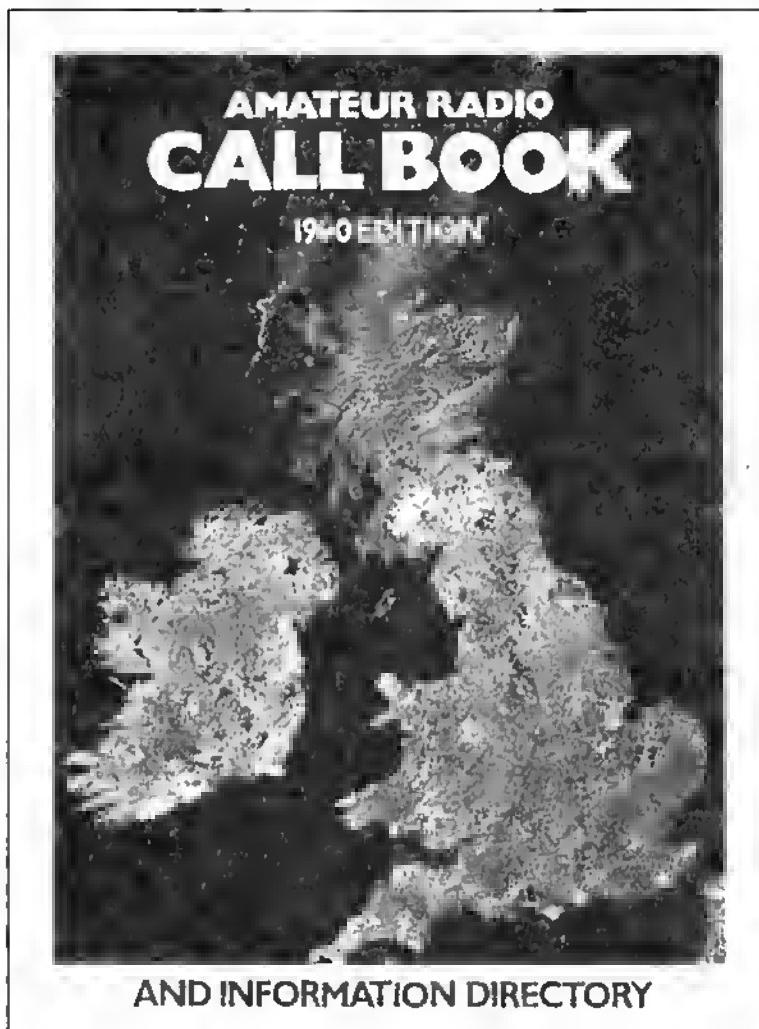
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# Members' Ads

Conditions of acceptance are published on the Members' Ad order form Inserted into the wrapper with every issue of Radio Communication posted to members. This form must be used when placing an advertisement; and please note that FOR SALE, WANTED and EXCHANGE advertisements must not be mixed on the same form. A new, more flexible, pricing scheme has been introduced. Details are on the form. Each advertisement must be accompanied by the correct remittance, as a credit card payment, cheque or postal order made payable to the Radio Society of Great Britain. Please note that because this is a subsidised service to members, no correspondence can be entered into.

## FOR SALE

● BU200 Mk2 v/h field scanner: £100. Vince G6LLB. 01-531 0716 after 6pm.

● DRAGON 64 computer, as new. PSU Datacomer manual, several books, avara keyboard: £55 the lot. Coalville 0530 36595 G08JG.

● YAESU FT726R 10m HF end satelite modules. DTMF mic, a/cx cond: £775ono. BBC-B computer issue 7: £17.5. 5502 2nd processor: £55. Hard disk drive for BBC 10meg incl software in separate case with PS and 80pin diskette drive: £15.0. Taktronix 545A scope and Marconi FT144 sig. gen. Free but must collect. G4TIO OTHR. Ward 0924 465616.

● TRIO TR9500 70cm all-mode: £325. AOR2001 scanner 25.1-52mags: £250. Yaesu FT707/FRG7 FM-board: new: £45. Change your 2m band Int'l scanner MFJ313 c/w its bands and duck: £25. Kenwood/Trio TS420S FM filters. AM/YK88A CW/YK88C SSB/YK88N SSB/YK88S: £650. Major 588 11m SSB/AM/FM: £75. Multimode V-AC-DC-ohm, USA made, heavy duty steel case, ideal service work: £25. Kenwood SCM25 a/cx/mic: £25. Yousai YM36 noise cancelling mobile mic: £25. Commercial grade 70cm glass fibre enclosed coilsines, length 3m gain 6dB: £35. Norfolk 0328 710641 G4VDC.

● ICOM 23cm all-mode: IC1271 70cm/23cm mashtooth preamps. Norfolk 0328 710641 G4VDC.

● OTH sale. 3-bed bungalow. Exc order. Built 1960, modern kitchen, bathroom, 2 toilets. Gas CH, d/glazed. Large garage w/shop, pl, pwr, Gdns, 1/3 acre plus. Tarmac drive, quiet cul-de-sac. Gatain forest. Nibus stop, shops 3/4 mile, 6 miles Beaminmouth: £130,000. G3FK OTHR. Farnham, Dorset 0202 873175.

● ROTATOR TR44: £100. 4x250B and base: £15. Oskar dual reading sw/pwr meter 3.5-50MHz: £45. KW 100W 50cm dummy load: £18. 2x 587BLY: £5. Cirkil 2W broad-band PA unit: £8. Cirkil SSB x10 filter and carrier x10: £10. R5 4MHz freq. display: £15. UR67 16m new: £9. All mags 1.3tx2m: £13. 18tx2m: £19. 19tx1.5m: £10. Stand-off brackets 18in: £6. Buyer collects larger items. The rail car extra. G4BVW OTHR. Southport 0704 29036.

● YT7512m icvr with 8A power. Both 7mths old, as new: £500 with manual. Sudbury, Suffolk 0787 73236 G6DKE.

● YAESU FT800 HF icvr: £500. Dalong VLF c/w: £10. 6m c/w: £10. Lar linear emm match: £10. Yaesu YD148 mic: £15. VHF cavity wavemeter: £20. Yaesu FP12 PSU: Offers. AMTI terminal unit: Oltors. G4HVK. St Ives, Cornwall 0736 795948.

● TRIO TS820 liquid digital display. HF icvr with mic, good cond: £375. Manual incl. 14ela 2m yagis: £15. GOL3S OTHR. Bishops Stortford 0797 870903.

● YAESU FT290R Mutak, spkr mic, 1/4 wave, n/case, boxed. As new: £250ono. Homebrew 40ft tower: £1500. 10m yag, rotator: £65. May exch WHY. Yorkshiro 0422 351852 G0KTM.

● 6-METRE LOG periodic yagi engineered to high standard. Power gain 1.2dB and F/B 24dB claimed. Exc performance worldwide. 8-ele inc 5-driven on 18ft boom (9' sections for transport). Impedance about 7Ohms. £40 - a small fraction of commercial prices. Buyer collects. Also Reyo "Old Reliable" KW antenna loops in good cond, pair KW40, KW20. £28 the lot or £15 per pair + postage. GOMZD OTHR. Nr Southwall, Notts. Tel: 0636 830005

● PRO-30 v/h field scanning RX with rechargeable battery and chgr: £80. 16m AM/FM. G3UYK OTHR. (Winchester) 0962 678191

● AR88 good cond: Oltors. Spares and manual incl. (Chesham, Herts) 0992 28110

● INDIVIDUALLY designed del house, gas CH, partial DG, porch, hell, guests cloakroom. 2 reception rooms, part fitted kitchen, rear lobby with CH boiler leading to radio shack. Upstairs 3 beds, bathroom, landing. Outside 150ft rear gdn, greenhouse, garage, parking for several vehicles/caravan. Good radio location. WAB Square SWP29. Stalls. Comes c/w all ants. Located in the middle of good motorway network approx 2 miles from Jct 10 M42: £69,950. Further details: G0FXL OTHR. (Tamworth) 0827 281095

● ATARI 52057 computer. Atari 80124HD monitor. Kan data all mode. IC2042m trans HF5 vert GP + radial kit. Western DX32 2ela beam penitralor 3-band: Oltors. Buyers collect. G4YVG OTHR. (Todmorden) 0708 814562

● VALVES Centronics 5728. New, boxed: £30ea. G3LBG (Tonquay) 0803 313318

● AMSTRAD CPC464 computer with green screen monitor, 2 disk drives with interface and Amstrad V21/23 modem and interface: £300ono. Patrick Forbes. (Hitchin, Herts) 046276 463

● 50MHz vtr. Meon design with 10m i/f, SW. Well built, nice box. Worked VE1 etc: £70. Mike. G4SZX not OTHR. (Thorne) 0405 813713

● COMMODORE 128 c/w manuals and some software. Oltors. ARI800UK hand scanner, boxed, hardly used: £145. Consider ach either or both for FP707, FC707, FV707DM. G4ATA not OTHR. (Huddersfield) after 6pm 0484 865772 or day time 0484 722168

● YAESU FT800 v/h field 2m icvr with spkr/mic, chgr, case, car lead, manual: £125ono. Akai 4-track rec-to-real recorder: £195. 511 in tapes, VGC. Sommerkamp 150W TX FL200B: £60. Realistic 4-track stereo mix mixer: £15. Avo model 8, pointar ben, hence: £25. G3HRN. (Newport Shropshire) 0952 611168

● FREE standing 32ft Heathkit tower with dedicated ladder, both galvanised and painted green. AR400R rotator with control box and cable: £250. Will split, offers considered. Buyer inspects and collects, but help given with dismantling. G3WNT OTHR. (Birmingham) 021 445 1405

● TS711E 2m base all-mode. Good cond: £600. Adonis 503 base mic: £25. All ong. boxes and manuals. G1 KJT OTHR. (Milton Keynes) 028671 3124

● TEKTRONIX 190B constant amplitude sig gen: £80. Solentron CD711S 2scope (large, buyer collects): £40. Hameg PRM1100V active ATU: £15. Ex-Govt/directionoloculators (as seen at rates): £30. Radio/cassettes: JVC (Dotby): £40. Panasonic (gr. eq): £40. Sharp (cassette search feature): £40. Adis 2-side 300W projector (proj collected): £18. General shock clearance, SAE for lists. G8YBF OTHR or messages 061 477 5303 not OTHR

● ICOM 735 HF icvr with gan conv RX. Absolutely mint. Brmths old. Used w/intro, cw mic, box: £780ono. G4AFB OTHR. (Southampton) 0703 791049

● TELEPRINTER, Creed model 444, 2 baud rates, manual and lectern. Exc cond: Oltors. Ben Allen. (Mimhead) 0984 40576

● HT180 SSB/CW 80m icvr 10W PEP CW filter fitted: £180. David Thomas. G4OGW OTHR. (Hereford) 098987 287

● TS430S, SP430, PS430, FM unit, MC60A, SSB/AM/CW filter units fitted. Little used: £85. GM4USY OTHR. (Newport-on-Tay) 0382 543082 after 6pm

● JAPAN Radio Co NSO 505 TX and NRO 505 RX. This superbly engineered equip with fast a flatline and is appreciating in value: £1850. Morris. G4GEN OTHR. (Nuneley) 0827 2205

● UHF Duplexor Alritec M450-5A 5.5MHz spacing: £25. Tait T31 1/2 1028 repeater panel 1/6ch: £240. Exc order. P.W.Brown. 33A March Rd. Wimington, March, Cambs. PE15 0RW.

● ALTRON minibeam for 6-10-15-20m. Exc cond 11mths old: £35. Genuine reason for sale. (Portsmouth) 0705 814939

● MUTEK Mir 9-band HF 14MHz input 10W out: £20. Video recorder, remote control, l/r on loading: £150. GARRA. (Aldershot) 331617

● ALTRON AQ6-3E HF minibeam. 1.0-15-20-6. Incl square spokes, bafun, worked VK. VGC: £100. FSU Kingshill NT5505, with 3.5VDC 10A with sense outputs. Easy parallel operation, eg used for 12V/20A, cw h/book: £80. Prefer buyer collects. G3TZ2 OTHR. (Cambridge) 0276 254300

● QTH 2miles M5/42 chelal bungalow, Bromsgrove, Worcs. 2/3 ends, 2 lots, bathroom, kitchen, pantry, utility, large south facing lounge bed 3-diner. Purpose-built shack. All with full gas CH. Outside the garage and w/shop caravan and boat parking. In/out U-shaped driveway all within 1/5 acre. Hygian TH3 triband supported on easily accessible structure. The shack has a worldwide track record. £95000. Freehold. Further details from G4VZA OTHR. (Bromsgrove) 0527 578371

● TS520S with 10MHz CW filter, mic: £400. TS530SP with SSB/CW filters, mic: £600. ERA Microreader, early: £70. Daiwa Search 9 marine VHF RX 13V: £25. Belcom 1.3V/5A PSU: £7.50. Radiocom binder 11 off: £5. SWR binders 9off: £5. Both 1970s size. FRA7700 active aerial: £30. ATU SST-2 200W 10-80m small: £15. Icom HPI phones: £10. Collect or corr extra. G4IOT OTHR. (Folkestone) 0303 276063

● Hi rig FT707 plus PSU: £500. FT208 plus desk top chgr, hand mic, headset 0-30MHz R600 HF icvr: £250. Morse key: £10. HF swi-pwr meter: £25. (Congleton) 0260 276496

● EDDYSTONE icvrs 770R and EA12. Ext perfec tlf might need m/c cleaning and checking. Might deliver Yorks or Lincs. Chns (E. Yorks) 0462 631303

● BNOS PSU 12V/25A, £150. Tri 2300, c/w case, n/cads, chgr, ong packing: £110. G0BUC OTHR. (Torksey, Lincoln) 04271 340

● YAESU FRG7 gen.conv icvr. GWO and cond: £125. G4CSG OTHR. (Eastbourne) 0323 642465 6-7pm

● FRG7 gen conv RX with FM. Exc cond: £150ono. 3ele 2m quad ant. £15. Buyer collects. G8XNG OTHR. (Swindon) 0993 537622

● BBC-B Watford DDF5, 32k shadow RAM and solderless sideways ROM board: £280. ISO Pass: £35. May split. Ron G8WXI. (Carshalton) 01 642 6412

● COMPUTER ZX Spectrum + Ferguson data recorder, 30 games, CW TX/RX SSTV, RTTY G1FTU, G4IDE, VGC: £80ono. 144MHz Belo yag: £15. 13elr ionna: £15. Slim Jim: £5ono. G4SSX OTHR. (Ruislip) 0895 630627

● TM701E 2m/70cm T/RX: £385. AR850: £185. Signal RS535, n/cads, case etc: £235. All items boxed, manuals, VGC. Lockwood, G3XLL OTHR. (Lockwood) 037983 595

● TRIO TS820 digital readout, revalved and aligned by Lowe: £375. Nck. (Mullion, Cornwall) 0326 241 044

● YAESU FT73R UHF v/h field barr, case, CTCSS (FTS-12), DTMF (FTT-4), chgr: £240ono. Pair Elmac 4CX350A: £45. Low-band Pye Womblester: £25. Prof band IV TV amp based on Mullard YD1 300 triode (300W anoda dissipation) 1/2 wave cavity design should tune 70cm: £75. Baby PC/XT mother board, with intlo: £40. Sony CDP-35 CO player: £10. 00. B&W DM1 10spks: £70. Sony SL-C9 Beta video (needs attn): Offers. Pye PFA1RX (real spkr) on SU18. Good cond: £18. Mike G8TCI. (Worcester) 0955 708715

● HERALTERE mobile mic with scanning control box: £20. Shura 444 desk mic: £25. Philips PM32331-0MHz double beam scope: £60. Toshiba valves, pair J656C and 12B7A/7, Z63, QOV640A: £15. QOV320A: £10. QOV321: £5. Buyer collects or can a/cx. G3HC OTHR. (York) 0904 87779

● TRIO TS780 2m/70cm multimode basestation tvtr. Mains and DC cables, h/book, diplexer, boxed. Kenwood MC60A preamp mic. All in good cond: £650. Buyer to collect. G0GFR OTHR. (Pole) 0205 741939

● FT726R 70cm module for HF module FT726R. G1VXW OTHR. (Halesowen) 0384 65614

● RACAL 117E good cond: £250. SSB adaptor modifed: £50. RA19 97 preselector: £50. MAT9 drive unit: £50. G6XNC OTHR. (Bromley) 01 462 4461

● KENWOOD TS930S new: £1200. G50A (Southampton) 0703 669959 day 0703 737892 after 6.30pm

● 3ELIE trapbeam Mosley TA33JR, 1.4-21-28MHz, with Kenro KR400RC heavy duty rotator and remote control and direction indicator. Manufacturers Insts and specs for all items. In good cond. Buyer collects. Real rock necessary: £230. G8WV OTHR. (Newport Pagnell) 0908 612604

● YAESU FT200 300W PEP icvr SSB/CW AM 3.5-30MHz with 240V spkr/PSU min. cond. H/book. Looks/siz FT101. Use on air before you buy: £200. Prof desk mic SSB/CW/FCOMP: £20. Condenser prech 2m TX. G3EAY. (St. Chorlton, Essex) 0261 753063

● 3ELIE trapbeam Mosley TA33JR, 1.4-21-28MHz, with Kenro KR400RC heavy duty rotator and remote control and direction indicator. Manufacturers Insts and specs for all items. In good cond. Buyer collects. Real rock necessary: £230. G8WV OTHR. (Newport Pagnell) 0908 612604

● FT703R 70cm h/v field, mini cond, boxed, spare head pack: £135. K2RIW 70cm PA: £190. PSU for K2RIW, 200V/5A: £175. K10F 2m 2PA single 4CX250B: £45. Commercial 13.8V/10A linear PSU: £45. Chns, G4CRF not OTHR. 029671 4888

● PK232 Pakell forming unit with PC-Pakatt. PK-Fax software, latest version 10/89, brand new, boxed: £225ono. Ravel MSI station monitor scope, new boxed: £210ono. Jaybeam VR3 Irband vrt 2kW 21/510: £45. DL1000 1kW dummy load: £45. SSA PC boards part assy: £10. (Nots) D602 603345

● FLAT rot mount, for HF/VHF dish antls, specially designed and manufactured by Strumach. Heavy duty triangular lattice tripod, 5ft base footprint, galvanised, tree-standing, 12ft height, drawing available. New off Ollants (Notts) 0602 609345

● YAESU FT101E, CW illar, DC pwr leads, good cond with manual and orig box: £300. Rupert G4RVX OTHR. (Chesham, Bucks) 0494 793557

● USED reel-to-reel tapes from the 1960s. 3x7in, 10x6in, 8x5in, 4x3in. Makie me ollier. GMA0AX OTHR. (Kilmarnock) 0563 21987

● CHEAP to good home. FT107 13.8V DC HF icvr. VGC. Prod modified to add 1.8-20MHz bands. Plus Racial RA17, fitted cover, working order but suspect if valve. Both units w/manuals, diagrams, spares lists: £250 the lot. No splits, buyer collects. G3UZN OTHR. (N. Norfolk) D26371 3238

● BNOS PSU 12V/25A linear 10-160W, exc. cond. C550, G4PYA OTHR. (Whitstable) 022779 3250

● YAESU FT227R FM 2m tvtr: £125. (Epsom) 0372 729475

● KENWOOD TM221 E with mic and m/bracket. VGC: £200ono. G0KIE OTHR. (Greenford) 01-572671

● FT290R 2m all-mode. Sommerkamp, 2 sets of n/cads, chgr, c/case, car mounting tray: £245. (Newbury) 0635 200974

● FT102, mini cond. AM/FM, CW nar, boxed, manuals etc: £525. G0JTO. (Swanage) 0294 42908

● MARCONI marine Alatana. Superb oil valve RX. 14kHz-28MHz. Int main PSU and spkr/h/book. Exc cond. Prefer buyer collects. Bargain: £130. G4YXX OTHR. (Winchcombe) 0963 32389

● FOR Commodore 64/PK232. 100% software. Easylife, Easyscript, Toolkit 4, Tasmad. All docs: £20 or £60 the lot. Post paid. New computer forces sale. GM4DYZ OTHR. (Perth) D738 628991

● RACAL RA1217 solid state icvr: £285. TA940A 100W linear amp: £100. Pye VHF icvrs, caps, transistors, racks, valves. Large collection mini LP records. Ask lists. Exc for Bird Thrush equip. Varsilower, VHF/UHF equip/beams WHY? 0467 25365 after 6.00pm

● TRIO TS520 mic, manual. GWO: £300. Marconi Elektra, Mercury pair icvrs. Ideal SWL, TV/TX/RX. 2 Pye Dophins. Ideal 160-80m TX/RX AM/CW. Offers quick sale. FDK700EX FM mobile: £130. Pair 613, £40. Pair 61488: £15. G4EUW. (Bognor Regis) 020630 3072

● YAESU FT290 Mk2, FL2025 25W amp, m/mount, m/mic: £340. GOANT OTHR. (Cambridge) 0223 467362 after 6pm

National AGS F76 rcvr with 4 bandspread coils. Similar age and concept to HRO. Sun collector: Offers. Donie Jones. (Wivell) 051-652 7454 day 051-342 7680 eva

● ROBOT 450C SSTV scan cvtr: £550ono. G3WGM. (Stannmore) 01-954 4497

● KINGSHILL DC PSU 90-130V/5A: £50. 2 voltage STC mics model 4032A: £20. AKG D56/60 mic: £20. Zonith multiband short wave radio: £10. Metz light case for Teac A3340: £25. Sony TC252D tape deck: £40. Claude Lyons auto voltage regulator 60A rating: £95. Two Colour BW CCTV cameras with 25mm lenses: £50ea, 2 Hitachi 15V BW monitors: £45ea. 5.8 magmount for 2m: £5. 15m BW monitors: £45ea. 5.8 magmount for 2m: £5. Sinclair ZX81 with manual: £20. Philips 290 pocket memo: £15. Solo duo to tunable mortgage on OTHR. G5ALK OTHR. 0689 7735D

● YAESU FT200 HF icvr incl mains PSU: £200. G3UGL OTHR. (Bedford) 0234 750050

● YAESU FRG7700 preamp: £25. Yaesu FRT7700 ATU: £30. Dalong FL3 auto notch: £80. Dalong impura tutor: £28. MMS2 morse tutor: £90. All with ints or manual. All + post. GMWMI. (Tamworth) 88-66874

● BNOS LPMI 44-3-100 new, boxed with Insls: £140. SP225 dual meter VSWR/pwr indicator. Offers. G4WV OTHR. (Warrington) 01-954 4497

● G4VX OTHR. (Brentwood) 0268 735508

● MM432/50 linear, now, new: £120. Strumach. Heavy duty triangular lattice tripod, 5ft base footprint, galvanised, tree-standing, 12ft height, drawing available. New off Ollants (Notts) 0602 609345

● TRIO TS101, CW illar, Interface, Mother board: £50. Easylife, Easyscript, Toolkit 4, Tasmad. All docs: £20 or £60 the lot. Post paid. New computer forces sale. GM4DYZ OTHR. (Perth) D738 628991

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● YAESU FT290 Mk2, FL2025 25W amp, m/mount, m/mic: £340. GOANT OTHR. (Cambridge) 0223 467362 after 6pm

- ICOM IC2SE: £230. Akai 4000D stereo deck: £80. Spentrum +128 with Plus-O interface: £90. Polar G0BAG (Portsmouth) 0705 598087
- NRD 515 HF rcvr 0.01-30MHz with AM/SSB/CW filters. Manual/mmcc cond. Only: £625ono. Mike G4FBK, (Northwood) 09274 22766 w/e or eve all or 7pm.
- TRIO 520SE HF lcrv. Ex cond: £295. FTV107 grey, fitted 2m with Interlane for use with 707, 747; £110. Micro 2E: £130. Drake R4B: £1.75. IC2E with base nhrgr, spare bat: £135. Hallicrafters SX110: £85. SEM ORM Eliminator: £40. (E.London) 01-534 3460
- RI 155. VGC, unlaunched: £60ono. R216. VGC plus PSU, manual, untouched: £90ono. Ex-MOD portable underwater Magnetometer: £75. Tatty. (Hallinld) 0707 279609 day
- YAESU FT1012D with FM board plus matching FV1010 DM digital VFO: £530. Realistic PRO2021 scanning rcvr: £115. All in ex cond c/w org packing and manuals. G4LTM OTHR. (Dukinfield) 061-338 3787
- DRAKE R4B RXn GWO. Fully xtailed. £1.60ono. G4VAM. (Peterborough) 0733 62848
- ICOM 720A HF lcrv. 100W all mode incl FM module 13.8V sold slat PA. £550ono. G4RNH OTHR. (Gateshead) 091-489 0724
- ICOM IC402 mini, boxed with manual and exptl xtais: £200. Plessey/G3ZVC 9MHz SSB lcrv module, ideal for G3TSO Invr: £35. RS 19m rank cabint, 516 high an easlon ch 2 eurocard sub racks: £400. 14el 70cm beam: £20. G4IYA OTHR. (Kent) D795 421207
- HF ATU Konwod AT230 160-10m. Exn.cond. used. Irwin only. Orig.packing. Bargain at: £150 plus p+p. 061-941 2822
- YAESU MF1A/B boom mic, SB10 PTT: £25 inc pair. Dalong 70m morsa tutor: £30. No 2 morse key: £5. G7AJW OTHR. (Seabridgeworth) D795 723336
- AOR 2001 scanner 25-550MHz. VGC, boxed: £250. G6XSI OTHR. (Bury St Edmunds) D284 702292 2ltar 8pm
- 204BA 20m beam: £165. 402BA 40m beam: £175. Bolt wind up tilt down lorer: £50. Racial RA17: £1.75. Racil TA MX 749: £1.75. K2RW 70cm amp 500W and PSU 1A. 4CX250bases: £10en. G4HXU OTHR. (Thame) 064421 3361
- YAESU FT1012D FM MK3: £165. Yaesu FTV901R lcrv 2.6m. £285. Tone MR15W 2m all-mode linear amp: £115. All VGC. (Worthing) 0900 603647
- ICOM IC740, FM board lrttd, min cond. Org packing: £425. Danse RM940 Intra-red mable mic. box, never used: £10. G4PZK. (Reading) 0734 68712
- MAPLIN Malineo electronic organ, 2 keyboards, pedal rhythm drawer voicing color sound circuit. Offers around: £175. G3XKA. (Woking) 77362
- AESUT77 lcrv, fitted narrow CW lltor, marker, AM band fitted, FM board also available, with m/bankrot and matching FC700 ATU. £475. Also Orake R4C rcvr exn hnd with MS4 spkr: £350 ar swap both ltrs Corsair II or Orake TR7A. G4OLC. (Chippington) 0670 655953
- PAKRATT PK64 full updates, as new cond. Cables, manual etc. £150. G3CXJ OTHR. (Bishop's Cleve, Cheltenham) 0242 673834
- ICOM IC735 gon.nov, narrow CW 500Hz filter. Electronic keyer boards, desk min. boxnd: £800. AR2002 snanner, boxed: £325. Both min cond. Los COKRA. (Ramsdale) 0843 582684 day 0643 581364 eve
- 1.5M mono band yagi: £55. Buyer collects. G4XWQ (Barnsley) 0271 77001
- SOTA 2m 100W linear amp, built-in AC PSU 10W in, 100W out: £60ono. Wkg order. G4BAL OTHR. (Sedgefield) 0370 4062
- TRIO TR2300G 2m lcrv £125 Matching VB2200 10W amp: £60. TR3200 70cm lcrv: £95. 21 Cmosgrain leid dish and tripod: £70. Portable PSU air lkw linear: £100. GP23.2m collinear: £20. Commodore 64, 1541 disk drive, 1701 colour monitor plus 80 disks: £250. Magnamobile aerial base: £20. CDR-HM: heavy rotator: £85. Channel Master light rotator: £25. MM 23cm vtr: £25. Bmt Tint-line lkw plugins: 100-250MHz, 200-500MHz: £25ea. Jayboem 10el 2m long yagi: £20. G4BRR OTHR. (Cheltenham) 0242 527598
- YAESU FT3020M HF lcrv. SP01 ext spkr. Exn cond: £575. FT290R Mk3 c/w case, nhrgrs, m/mount: £240. Buys Inspects/nollctrs or pays can extra. G0DFF. (Northants) 0604 831061
- HF PA transistors 2PT9795: £15. Broadband PA unit G3TSO design t15. 15V 14SA PSU 120V AC l/r easy mod 13.8V: £12. Rotator algnmntr bearing: £8. 4m4ole: £0.2m. 70cm 8.8: £8 2m PA unit (4X250B) and 1000V PSU: £20. Large coax relay: £5. 4p type aural changeover relays: 5.4m 70W O/P SSB only 28MHz IF: £20. 100 10 695MHz 8-pole SSB xtal ltor: £10. Heathkit GDO: £15. X4250 and holder: £8. 3 3 hole guy clamps: £5. Buys nollctrs larger items. Iltc resl car extra. G4BWW OTHR. (Soulbury) 0704 29098
- YAESU FT790R FM/SSB/CW 70cm TX/RX with nhrgrs and chrrg. Ex cond: £250. FL7010 10W linear amp incl for good measure. 13el 70cm yagi with UR67 cable and fully auto ant rotator. Gact cond: £35. G3WYV. (Rockdale) 0705 42821
- BBC-B lltcd Wallord 1.44DFS (ROM). All manuals, lwn joysticks, swrsw (disk). Mini Oficio II. Gemini Database Replica III. Also a few games and some swars on tape: £280. Vtg. G4WYV. Dlce hours 0425 478640 or 472008
- ABSORBTION wavemeter Marconi TF975 90-100kHz in 8 ranges. mahogany box: £55. Inlne wallmeter US Navy TS3499 10-1000MHz 10-1000W in 5 ranges: £80. Bolt with insk boxt. G3VXZ OTHR. (Maidenhead) D628 27350
- TH2SE 2m h/l crw SMC3/ spkr/mic and DC1, PG2V 12V lead, case. All boxed, manual etc. Deliv in NW: £180. (Liverpool) 051-250 8814
- B2 warline TX/RX. Racial TRA1338 SSB lcrv. Caledine WW2 rcvr DST100. TCSI 2 TX/RX. WS48. WS38 AFV. RI 19 on carrier. Al 3-PA unit. HRO. C42, 52sel RX. RI 155. Eddyland ED35 rcvr. Fluke 73. IC240 2m mobile. Thandar lreq. counter TF040/prscaler. Gould dual-boom scope. G4OFO OTHR. (Kingston-upon-Thames) 01-949 2317
- G26YMN irripedule ID2ft long, 5-bands with twin loder: £35. Yaesu FTV707 lvtl fitted 144m/c, boxd, VGC: £75. Morse key type 0.5W. Smith dala reprodcer: £12.50. Tinstar 3 HF vnt crw radials. VGC: £65. G3OAZ OTHR. (Basingstoke) 0266 465126
- NATIONAL HRO Senior, octal valves, 9 GC cols, mains PSU/spkr, ann.hnd: £70. BC346L means PSU/spkr, ann.hnd: £45. BC3480 working, one band u/s: £20. Avco magic-eye LCR brdg: £5. Will swap various of the above for solid state GC mvr. Manuals for various surplus rcvs. Lots of components, valves etc. (Herts) 0727 38908
- TOKYO hi-power Minro 7.3 7cm 10W h/lled in good cond. Boxed: £60. G4KUR OTHR. (Solihull, W.Mids) 021-743 6701
- YAESU/Sommerkamp 101 ZOM K3 HF lcrv fitted fm, FM unl and c/w AM unit: £40. Tractor mounted galvanised latline tower with hand unl, rotator, winches, 3elt lnbander, 40ft: £500ono. Gavin, G4WHLR DTHR. (Bunkley) 0244 543210
- FTV901R Yaesu lvtl fitted with 2m and 6m boards. Suitable for FT901DM end FT10120 series. Ex cond: £255. Genaird G0EHK. (Nr Preston) 0772 614200
- YAESU FL2100B linear, aervined al nosl nearly £300. Now 572B fitted mains lnter. All loads, manual 100% working order. Bargain at: £425ono. View Dewsbry Electronics or G3BWN OTHR (Nottingham) 0602 228789
- G3030 IMman cond: £650. TS811E, as new, boxed: £700. FT690 Mkl with 25W linear: £250. Mike G4ZCO. (Bristol) 0272 513573
- COLLECTORS - 250 well assorted valves 1930s-1960s, untested but approx 1/2 boxed: £25. 1957 Geloso VFO built into multiband TX. With 2x807 output: £25. 1958 modular, xtal mc to pifull KTF65 with Woden UM3 MOD transformer: £35. 1956 Acas MIC36 xtal mm: £10. Eddystone 698 alndoluo dial: £15. Books, Newaves Complete Wrls load, 4vols nomplo, probably 1930s. Paxton, Engineering Workshop Practico, 3vols nomplo, probably 1930s. Ollers, All pols narr. Inn, GM3LGL OTHR. (Oulton) 0369 873411 ltrg 8pm
- TRANSFORMER PRI 240V sens 500-0-500 250mA 3x 6.3V/3A. £1D. Valveon x4807 In case: £5. Buyer collects. Valvos PL509 for lntars: £3. Many TV types: £2. All plus p+p. Various caps, panel mters, panel form PSU etc. G3UBV OTHR. (Oxford) 0875 2486
- MM 70cm 100W amp: £270. SSB Electronics LT23S lvtl 10W, high stability option: £300. Crofton 9m B/W monitor: £25. John. (Catterline) 0206 866238 avo
- ICOMIC451E 70cm multinode lcrv, VGC, boxed with SM5 mic and Muiek TLNA432S preamp: £425. Icom IC251 E 2m multimode lcrv with Muiek F/E, VGC, boxed: £425. BNOS 144MHz linear, 10W in, 50W out: £65. 50MHz Spectrum TX and RX vtr boards, assembled and tested: £35p. G6DXB OTHR. (Burgess Hill) 0444 246767 eve 6-9pm or daytime w/e
- COMPLETE 8m station, FT690 linear, 30a main ant: £325ono. 2nd licence to support G3TTL OTHR (Home Bay) 0227 361740
- AMP Supply Co HF linear LK450, new: £750. Japan Radio Co TX/RX JST125 superb: £750. G4S9V DTHR. (Redditch) 0527 545304
- FT726R basestation fitted with 2m only. Pristine cond, boxed with manual: £500. Code Master GCR810E CW/RTTY decoder and morsa tutor, manual and boxed: £95. Harvey, G4YNI OTHR. (Mannostler) 061-740 7708
- FT790 70cm all-mode lcrv, brand new ncads, org.packing o/c: £250. TR2500 2m FM lcrv and a/xtras: £180. C64 computer new 1541 disk drive, tape unl, books, leads and some swr: £180. Bkt, GEEH OTHR. 0283 42962
- BNOS 12/20E PSU: £120. CTE1600 2m with BS2S lntar: £180. Both innan. John, G4YDM OTHR. 091-416 2608
- TS520SE HF lcrv. New soi of valves in PA. Also on drive stage: £375ono as that's what I paid before fitting new valves. Also FPT707 PSU: £100ono. G0LUO OTHR. (Oxford) 0865 68042 alter 8pm
- ICOM R71E RX .1-30MHz, FM board fitted. Boxed, as new: £550. AR2002 plus discote: £325. G3VEZ OTHR. (Bournemouth) 0202 530436 alter 6pm
- CUSHCRAFT A3 and KR400 rotator: £150 or ach for lnbnd ver and/or decent swr mtr. Not OTHR. (Lowestoft) 0502 730523
- TRIO 2m multimode TR751E: £350. Yaesu 6nr multimode FT690: £295. MM linear amp 14MHz 50W: £75. Yaesu linear 10W for use with FPT690: £75. Diamond ant SX200 swr/towr motor 1.8-200MHz: £40. Kenwood SP50 ext spkr: £30. Yaesu SP55 ext spkr: £30. All the above boxed with manuals. Altran 4 soillan S5II lnter c/w head unl (W/M) and winches: £550. Tower only 6mths old. Buys nollctrs. Amega Commodore computer c/w Commodore monitor. All manuals, disks 2mths old: £550. (Brookwood) 0487 81202
- COLLINS S lima. Icom IC202S: £110. Yaesu FT703R h/lled: £90. Yaesu FL2100Z WAR, hardly used, boxed: £550. G4LW OTHR. (Trowbridge) 0225 753166
- TEN-TEC Century 22 HF CW lcrv, 50W wllr Dawa 5S PSU. Little used as new £295ono. Also Hallimitters HT75SSB/CW HFTX. Good cond and working order: £80ono. G4AIH OTHR. (Sale, Cheshire) 051-562 1904
- DONTT miss this opportunity to obtain an unused VHF/UHF Yaesu comm RX, FRG9600M plus AC adaptar: £120. (Coventry) 0203 664244 Mon-Thurs only
- YAESU FT111 RH 545W 2m lcrv with Yaesu mobile headset and switchbox. M/lnter, manual, orig.packing: £260. Inom IC2E, s/case, chrrg, spkr mk, mable PSU, manual, orig.packing: £110. G4CLP OTHR. (Ashby-de-Louz) 0530 411 64
- FT102 HF TX, FC102, SP102, FM board fitted, narrow lnters. SSB/CW. Exc cond: £725ono. G4WVF OTHR. (Leigh) 0942 250088 after 5.30pm
- HO1 minbeam: £70. Rotolar AF40: £50. Tero sig.gen: £20. GM4BOA OTHR. (El.Kilbore) 03552 24087
- VHF/UHF collinear free with GTH Willingdon, Eastbourne. 5ft delinshed, exc. position. Excond. Reduced to £154.950. Details G4OHB, 021-448 3530
- KENWOOD TS950SD with MC60A mic. Latest top of the range model. New Jan 1990. Operator just 100 mic shy to use it. Cost £3287 will accept: £2795. No offers. G0OBW OTHR. (nr.Loughborough) 0530 222453
- YAESU FRG7700 RX: £250. Heavy brass QPO noise key: £20. Steve Lillay. (Stokenage) 0438 742200 x526 day
- CIRKIT airband rcvr, built and working to spec on 12V: £70. Realistic DX440, exn. S/W RX, as new: £70. Psi on both exln. Ave CM/CW sig gen 2.5-250MHz, decent output attenuator: £50. Buyer must collect. GM4IJZ OTHR. (Edinburgh) 031-311 2755
- NORTHERN Ireland. 50ft latoscopin lnter tower: £295. Hygain Explorer lnbander: £250. Hygain TH5 lnbander, new, boxed: £390. Mukal 2m masthead preamp: new: £70. Bird Thruline with Tala and leather case: £295. YK66 CW lnter: £35. Shurd 444D. £45. NC7 base chrrg: £20. NC8 base nhrgr and mains adaptar: £39. 10X: £20, 12X 70cm: £20. Range: £15. G13KDR. 0848 689822 eve
- TRIO TS530S with CW lnter fitted. Imman cond: £525. Tri TS1205. VGC: £300. Kenwood TR9000 2m/ellipode lnter, good cond: £250. Racial RA17/HF rcvr, VGC: £150. Buyer to collect. G4NOV. (Moulbourne) 0332 664007
- FT767GX lcrv latest type. All modes 70cm/6m/ 2m HF unmarked: £170. F7900 lcrv exc cond, unmarked: £190. SM220 monitor: £220. Oscar swr: £30. 70cm 10el ant: £20. 6m new 3ols: £25. 2m: £15. M/M iniar 10/100: £10. Coax cable: 35pm boxd and manual. Howard, G0HZH OTHR. 0394 460474
- FT767GX lcrv latest type. All modes 70cm/6m/ 2m HF unmarked: £170. F7900 lcrv exc cond, unmarked: £190. SM220 monitor: £220. Oscar swr: £30. 70cm 10el ant: £20. 6m new 3ols: £25. 2m: £15. M/M iniar 10/100: £10. Coax cable: 35pm boxd and manual. Howard, G0HZH OTHR. 0394 460474
- SILENT key sale. Junkars and RAF keys. Both immc: £35en. RS 500V isolating transformer 200/240 in lagged out: £30. Plus car. Ave 8Mk2 in hasu: £40. RF therm milliamper 2.5in 0-6MA: £15. Douglas 300VA trans 200/240V primary 0-30V in 13 laps at 10A out: £10. Plus narr. G2AK OTHR. (Aldridge) 0922 525158
- ICOM 735HF all-mode, boxed, hardly used only a few months old: £695 incl delivery UK. G76MO OTHR. (Shoreham-by-Sea) 0273 453810
- TRIO/Kennwell service manuals R2000: £6. TS940S: £12. Inn posl. G3JHP OTHR. (Horley) 0293 774303
- YAESU FT7578X with FG757AT. GWO: £700. Would consider px/ox Sommerkamp 788DX or similar. 0742 622827
- PACKET TNC Tiny-2 with PMS, as now cond with h/u book: £95. Plus post. G3KZU OTHR. (Qx-Isle) 0805 63000
- YAESU FT209R 2m h/lled, Yaesu FT709R 70cm h/lled, 2x NC15 PSU/nhrgr units, one wall chrrg, spkr, FNB3 lntcd, 2x MH12A2 spkr/mics, YH2 headsl. As new: £395. Shura 44D disk/mic: £18. 2B 7/8 mobile ant coax: £10. G4WBWT. (Llandudno) 0492 76107
- ICOM 32E with extended RX. Oscar mobile ent. spkr mic. As new, not used on TX: £325. G4ZOA OTHR. (Portland) 0305 820025
- TS530S with CW lnter, immc: £985ono. TS680S as new with mic: £725. G3GIQ OTHR. (London) 01-567 6389
- FL2100 linearamp. one (new) spdr 572B. VGC: £300. Aikco DJ100E 2m h/lled, spkr/min: 7.2V and 12V batl banks, c/w ncads and h/u book: £100. Belcom AMR-104H marine band scanning rcvr 240VAC/12VDC 8ch (8 xtlts fitted): £30. Brn G8HW. (Alltrincham) 061-980 4466
- TEN-TEC Century 21: £10. Real of cabinet slight trnsit damage. Tono 7000E: £200. AEA CK2 contest keyer. Wth benhorr paddl: £85. Without: £60. Manuals for all. Will happily (upwards preferably) (Nr.Huntingdon) 0187 641558
- IC735ant12wksold. A genuino reason for sal: £750ono. TS1200 10W lcrv, good cond with mic: £250. BBC-B computer issue 7 board with twin 8040 disks. High res colour monitor, alxa Z80 processor ROMS CPC Wordstar Presol etwre: £400ono. (Shottisham) 0394 411957
- PSON Organiser model XP: £50. Z88 computer with 32k Epram + 32k RAM punk: £150. Ideal for packol. 10ch x16 controlled rcvr 2nd lntf: £30. All plus p+p. Iein GMPSU. (Livingston) 0506 663309
- KAM Kantonics all-mode TNC. Boxed. Leads, documentation: £1.55. Microlinc multiplex modem V21 V22V23 suitable Presol, Telecom Gold etc. £80. KM00 keyor, memory as testaled Fob 2B. RadCom Store onlls etc. £15. Bonchkey key, rhromo in Irish (rambic): £50. Will sell or exch with cash adjustment. Ite Av 8 multimeter. Must be VGC. G4KRC OTHR. (Newbury) 0632 60263
- FT290 Mkl, nrhd plan and chrrg. MB31 m/l, FL2025 25W linear: £475. TS760 270 multimode: £600. KPC4 dual port TNC: £190. Alnrig boxes. Could px/ox for K2R/WPSU or WHY? Stewart, GM4AFF not OTHR. (Aberdeen) 0569 31182
- TV stalin transmder namen: up crv 435mc/s QRP sale/exch. G3N3D OTHR. 0562 850570
- MMT 28/144MHz linear lvtl: £85. AEA DDX-64 contest simulator: £50. AEA PTK68 (now Inward): £10. Sony ICF2010, brakln, lar swrs: £5. Gam quad alloy spider: £5. G3VOO. (Ossett) 0924 269302
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- CUSHCRAFT A3 and KR400 rotator: £150 or ach for lnbnd ver and/or decent swr mtr. Not OTHR. (Lowestoft) 0502 730523
- TRIO 2m multimode TR751E: £350. Yaesu 6nr multimode FT690: £295. MM linear amp 14MHz 50W: £75. Yaesu linear 10W for use with FPT690: £75. Diamond ant SX200 swr/towr motor 1.8-200MHz: £40. Kenwood SP50 ext spkr: £30. Yaesu SP55 ext spkr: £30. All the above boxed with manuals. Altran 4 soillan S5II lnter c/w head unl (W/M) and winches: £550. Tower only 6mths old. Buys nollctrs. Amega Commodore computer c/w Commodore monitor. All manuals, disks 2mths old: £550. (Brookwood) 0487 81202
- G4LZG. (Manchester) 061-790 3461
- TRIO TR7800 2m FM 25W lcrv c/w m/mount: £130. Icom IC202 6ch 2m/hd swr spkr/mic and s/c: £110. KENPRO KP202 6ch 2m/hd S20, S22 and Raytel lreq. nhrgrs: £60. BBC-Brisus 7Microwave colour monitor. Viglen dual disk drive 40/80 track Acorn Totolink adaptar and soma s/c: £10. G3TSO. (Cirencester) 0285 5252
- JST135 lcrv bandwidth option + NBD50 PSU/ spkr, min/cond, new 1/2/1.9G. 6wks QRP uso. Lawe supplied warranty, mic, manuals, boxes: £1400. Save £400 on new. Yeasu FT778 IC1, 160m, FM, F122 PSU/spkr, min/cond, m/c, manuals, boxes: £355. G4WLP OTHR. (Caernarfon) 0286 5264
- FT102 HF xcvr, FC102 ant tuner, FC707 ant tuner. All min. Owner oldtimer now silent key. Offers to G3KPO OTHR. (IOW)
- YAESU FT707 lcrv, GWO: £300. Dalong auto speech processor. exc cond: £45. Sony rcvr

ICF2001 D, as new. Bargain: £200. Halley dipoles never used outside 1m; £12. 1m; £10. Stainless steel 2m, SWR whip on Magmount. Perfect: £15 G3UFO OTHR. (Selhurst) 0564 777802  
 • COMPLETE KW station. KW2000E PSU/spkr 1100 multiplier, 1000 linear, 107 ATU, 108 monoscope, 6 matching units. Manuals, spare valves: £700. GW3PRA OTHR. (Flint, N.Wales) 03526 3030  
 • GAREX SX400 remote control interface c/w BBC s/ware: £80. Linear amp 25W in 100W/12V DC: £60. Racial counter 9915 1GHz-520MHz 8-digits: £100. Marconi TF955 AM/FM 220MHz sig gen: £60. Datong AD370 active serial: £30. Datong D70 in-store tutor: £20. Bird 43 cased, 7 inserts HF, 2m, 70cm: £140. Various inserts: £20ea. HP3405 broadband VVM 100kHz-1.2GHz: £40. Tolonic 3300 sweep system, CRT, cables probes. Observa VSWR/filter response 100kHz-1GHz c/w manuals: £150. G8PYC OTHR. (Thame, Oxon) 08421 5857  
 • KENWOOD TS430S with PS430, AT250, MC60A. All unused, boxed, will accept: £950. G6SVG OTHR. (Reigate) 0737 761 399 afternoons/ eve  
 • YAESU FT225RD 2m basestation: £500. Yaesu FT480 2m base/mobile m/mode. Both magnificent specimens. £150. Emile G4THE. (Potters Bar, Herts) 0707 54905  
 • TWO Pye PF2s FM low-band c/w aerials, mics, bals, chgrs, plus 2 non-working sets for spares and service manual: £80ono. Prefer buyer collects, or plus post. G1HUU OTHR. 061-773 6732  
 • KENWOOD TS530S HF icvr, Immac cond with spare unused matching pair of 6146B PA valves: £575. G4JTR OTHR. (Reading) 0734 476673

## WANTED

• EDDYSTONE EC958 RX, 10MHz-30MHz, or similar with LW coverage. Display unit with Eddystone considered, otherwise digital readout preferred. Must be in VGC. Also, LW down-conv for Racial RA17L reqd. Will collect. David. (Shanklin, IOW) 0963 654227  
 • INTERFACE unit for Amiga 500 plus/ware. Any info. Paul Peirn RS92338, 3 TRK TRPT Sqn, RCT BFPD 1B, 0149 5251 3165  
 • ORIG NRC spkr. Morris. G4GEN OTHR. (Nuneaton) 08257 2205  
 • H/BOOK or Info for Schlumberger Stablock 4011 radio test set. Pye PF85 niced batt, leather case, chgr WHY? Late 1950s Era valve car radio 12V positive earth. P.W. Brown, 33A March Rd, Wimington, March, Cambs, PE1 5 RW.  
 • TRIO TL120 linear amp. Cash waiting for this or other eccos for TS130V icvr WHY? Alan G4PSU. (Newbury) 0635 71150 eve  
 • KW2000B icvr with mic, PSU end spkr in GWO please. (Stockport) 0625 784549  
 • DATONG linear type FL3. Also operating data for scope type DS-1 by Telequipment. G4RHI OTHR. (Amersham) 0297 32572  
 • S/WARE for Apple II plus - particularly AMTOR, RTTY, morse. Also logbook record etc. WHY? Barnard, G3ESW OTHR (Stalldon) 0785 662350.  
 • 2M multimode. G8XNC OTHR (Bromley) 01-462 4461  
 • BUY, photocopy or borrow A Guide to Amateur Radio, 1st ed. Urgently reqd for study, great care taken, all cost readily paid. Bernard Lutherland, G4IMT OTHR (Chippingham) 0225 891254  
 • DOCTOR DX and Doctor OSC computer CW simulator for Commodore 64/128. David Cole, 01-594 3495 home 0423 74043  
 • PILOT U650 wanted by keen collector. Any cond. Good price paid. Other 1930s broadcast RXs of interest, particularly Pilot models. AR88D and other RXs available for p/x cash. Either way will buy RX valves in small numbers. G0HPM. (nr. Reading) 0734 713322  
 • 19SET Mk2. Also Tannoy Tank mic, Loudspeaking apparatus No 9 and 38sls. Taylor, 89 Lion Rd, Twickenham, Middx. 01-891 2820  
 • TANDBERG TCD334 cassette recorder. Must be good cond. Basil, G4TIC OTHR. (Leeds) 0532 402909  
 • HELP required by white stick operator. Someone to install an audio device to read off the swr meter of an ant tuning unit. G3YQE. (Brentwood, Essex) 0277 823434  
 • ALINCO ALM203 2m h/held or similar. Era Microreader VHF scanner. HF SSB TX/RX faulty to linker with. 0843 294446  
 • CST mag 1988 to present. G3UGL OTHR. (Bedford) 0234 75050  
 • YAESU FT55 KW Vespa Alias 180, 215X or similar older equip WHY? Len G3XKO. (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) 091-478 2965 10am-5pm only  
 • GEM quad or hygian quad WHY? G4HXU OTHR. (Thame) 08421 3381  
 • HF AM TX/DX-100 or similar. Will collect. Wanted Gonionet. G3WFT. 0473 31 1665 after 6.30pm  
 • RECRUITING WFT would be club members, all British Amateurs. To share in the enjoyment as well as the running costs of a radio amateur exotic tropical island beach villa. OTH c/w HF station, to be shared at the rate of two weeks per member annually. 0998 668189  
 • CIRCUIT dia. or manual for Fisk Radioplate (Australian) Murphy AI 22 Masteradio D184. Marconi T56A, Murphy UI 02, Bush PB5. G0EDG OTHR. (ristol) 0454 614178  
 • ICOM IC215 2m FM portable. Also Icom IC402 70cm SSB portable. Both must be mint with orig packing if poss. (Warwick) 0926 498388  
 • DRAKE DSR2, R4245, any Watkins Johnson.

Also Tracor VLF phase rcvr. G3FK. (Shrewsbury) 0743 88458

• MAINS Isolating transformer 240VAC in/out. Minimum 500VA. Megger (crank type) insulation tester or similar. Roberts, 26 Beech Ave, Bromsgrove, CM13 2DX.  
 • NEWLY licensed RAIBC member requires solid state rig, plus PSU and ATU. Kenwood TS140S/680S, TS430S/440S, or Yaesu FT747, 757GX Mk2 or Icom IC257/35, IC740 preferred. Will travel reasonable distance from S/Hants to view. Contact in 1st instance G3AVQ OTHR. (Shire Heath) 0329 833069  
 • CIRCUIT dia. linear amp CP163X II. Also source of supply HD lead acid batts with cells ext/repaired. G8EGS OTHR. (Finsford, Shropshire) 0980 862681  
 • TEKTRONIX scope 545A, faulty, incomplete etc (for spares). Also, if such a thing exists, Heathkit SW7400 rcvr, unfinished, faulty etc. Also reqd certain valves. Have some to dispose of, would be interested in buying, selling, swapping. Chris. (Reigate) 0737 227212  
 • 2M multimode icvr. FT290R2, IC275 pre-ferred. Also FM h/held IC02E, TH215E or similar. Plus VSWR meter and PSU. (Wimborne) 0825 531154  
 • WIRING diagrams, manuals for Dymec Lynx B30 and Pye F9U. E1/BFC OTHR.  
 • SERIOUSLY seeking SSB: 2m rig needed: Yaesu FT290, Icom 202, Mizuho WHY. G4CYB, 5 Blundells Ln, Enville, S. Staffs, DY7 0HU. 0384 873593  
 • RAF air publications relating to H2S/ASV radars, navigation equip ie Babs, Obie, Lorax, Gee etc. Also ex RAF radio stores Index publications AP1086-Sec 10. Exc prices offered. Would purchase posl-war magnetrons, klystrons, T/R cells, TWts, thyatrons, special types of M-OVEEB tubes and CV types. Many thanks. M.Gee, 17 Foxley Cl, Mountford Est, Fernhill Rd, Hackney, London, E8 2JN. 01-790 2845 or 01-254 9063 anytime.  
 • H/BOOK, copy circ'd requested to purchase covering Pye Sealerar 1112 rcvr. Star rcvr SR550, G7CMD. (Tynemouth) 091-268 4085  
 • HF or 2m mobile any cond. Can repair. G3NXD OTHR. (Oxford) 0865 633000  
 • FERRITE rod aerial in VGC for Realistic QX300 restoration. Junked or scrapped OR6661 or rebuild needs all casework and panel mechanical. G4LEG OTHR. (Crawley) 0293 32825  
 • PYE P5012 service manual to purchase or loan for photocopy and return expenses paid. G3KZU OTHR. (Oxford) 0865 633000  
 • MORIUM magnificient Q-code list as published by MM about 3 yrs ago. Will pay for post, copying etc w bonus thrown in. D Alexander G0KCD. (London) 081-999 2517  
 • KIND and gentle morse key. I help enthusiastic beginner to pass the Morse test. G0HWF. (Hereford) 0432 58466  
 • MORSE reader, ICS Electronics MBA-RO. G3TJY OTHR. (Poole) 0202 622142  
 • FT101 B/F module made by G3LLH with mnts. Also circuit for Europe B 2m vhf. 0685 881694  
 • 1KW KW dummy load must be in GWO. £50 mailing. (Selhurst) 07655 2624  
 • MIZUHO 2m TX/RX SSB portable. Any cond G3KHM OTHR. (Wien, Shrop) 0933 34605  
 • 12V valve car radio working or not. Low-band Pye M294, G4AJE OTHR. (Cambs) 0354 741168  
 • SHIMUZU SS10S or FT7. PROG icvr. John, G0GUL OTHR (Coventry)  
 • RSGB car badge I understand these have been made in the past. I would like one for my car. Can anyone help me please? Nod OTHR (Kidderminster) 0952 60887 anytme  
 • KENWOOD TL922 HF linear amp in good cond G3MLX. (Hull) 0482 52641  
 • SKIPPERED boat hire for MM expedition. About 1wk between July 21 to August 5. About 5 keen Tolland lindendubs. Possibly sail Western Isles area from any port. Your price within reason! G3UKY OTHR. (Tellont) 0952 255416

## EXCHANGE

• KENWOOD TS670 all-mode icvr 10W output 50, 20, 21, 7MHz GC rcvr twin VFOs. VGC. Wanri JRC rcvr or WHY? G3GHB. (Worcester) 0835 792582  
 • ICOM IC245 2m multimode, 1W/15W out, 144-148, mc, mm/mm, manual, VGC, boxed, for Bellcom LSI 02L or Ham Int'l Jumbo Mk3 or WHY. Also Yaesu FT200 HF matching PSU, manual, needs alignment, works OK. Exch for FG902 ATU. Sorry no phone. last RS6865. The Dormouse, 5 Sunsal Walk, Bush End, Eddies-on-Sea, Norfolk, NR12 0SX. All letters answered  
 • HAVE several Wireless Wards 1846-52, parts from Eddystone 770U rcvr (nearly everything present but short on valves), IAIY Philips ball valve rcvr and 300+ valves. Would appreciate Tektronix 545A scope and plug-ins (faulty, incomplete whatever). Also require certain valves. Will gladly swap/swap/buy. Chris (Reigate, Surrey) 0737 222712  
 • EXCH Standard 5200 dual-band 50W mobile icvr with duplexer, hardly used, in perfect cond. Wanted HF linear or WHY or sell: £400. G4VNG no OTHR. (Peterborough) 0733 231639 anytime  
 • JST135 icvr + BWC trui NBD520 PSU/spkr mc, manuals, new Jan 1990. Mint. Exch Icom IC761 icvr or IC720A icvr. Both must be mint cond with FM mic, manuals, boxes, power 1 owner options. No mods. G4WLP OTHR. (Caerphilly) 0268 526426  
 • STANDARD C58 all-mode scanning 2m portable, s/case, duck, whip, chgr. Want scanning 2m FM mobile or sell: £200. (Somerset) 0458 250124

## HELPLINES HELPLINES HELPLINES

### HIGHSPEED QRSE?

Angela Sutton, G0HGA, is looking for a copy of the Cander Advanced Highspeed CW Course, either on loan or a photocopy (expenses paid). If you can help please contact her at 29 Hudson Road, Stevenage, Herts, SG2 0ER

### CANADIAN 52 SET

Has anyone got tucked away any of the following: a complete/noar complete tune/set/tick mechanism from a 52 set, a REME drawing of this complicated mechanism and a socket/plus for the DC tip fitted at the rear of the cabinet, or the bits of either. Mr Andrew Humphries would be pleased to hear from you to restore his Canadian 52 set to near new condition. He can be reached at 'Popen', 21 Gould Road, Hampton Magna, Warwick, CV35 8TU, or on telephone 0926 400876.

### ANOTHER 52

Paul Caswell, RS47464, is looking for an original ATU for a Marconi No52 set, which according to the report of the manual he has is a No 2A. Any other bits for this - other than the receiver - would be most welcome. His address is 78 Colbatch Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B13 0AO.

### MOTOROLA UHF HANDHELD

David Cooper is seeking information regarding his Motorola UHF handheld icvr (believed to be H1220) in a 2-channel, with a separate speaker mike and stub antenna, for a 70cm conversion. He particularly wants crystal layouts, what each coil does and how to tune up. He would also like details of the nicad cells used & output power etc. You can reach him at 22 Katoring Place, Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 9XP, tel: 0670 712514.

### IZUMI HF TCVR

Glenrothes & DRC have been gifted a non working hf icvr, a PAROS 22-TR made by the Izumi Co Ltd of Japan. If anyone has a circuit diagram of this Bob Smith, G3GKWT would be delighted to hear from you. Please write to him at 22 Elm Lane, Foresters Lodge, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 5TD

### CALLING ZB2G (1949-50)

Mike Sted, G3GOO (ex ZB2H) would like to contact John Tarr, ex ZB2G (1949-50). If you know of his whereabouts please write to 5 Swallow Hill, Thurlby, Nr Bourne, Lincs, PE10 0JB.

### SINCLAIR MICROVISION CIRCUIT DIAGRAM/MANUAL

Dave Barford, G8KBC wrote in recently requesting a circuit diagram/manual for his elderly Sinclair Microvision - possibly the first model - about 10/15 years old. Recently the TV tube (actually a scope tube) manufactured by AEG Nc DS1/00WB "blew" itself to bits for no apparent reason and in so doing damaged some other part of the circuit, causing what looks like a video drive fault and, as the circuit board is so small I am not going to prud around until I get some info or spare board?" Please contact Dave on 0521 65 539, 'Open House', Sulton Road, Hull, Allerton, Allord, Lincs, LN13 9RH.

### GEC/MARCONI EXPERT REQUIRED

Mr Hemill, RS36026, needs help to fix his GEC/Marconi RC410411 TR. He has the manuals (1,2 and 3) and, although it functions on all modes when the servo motor drives to the RF and LO stage is disconnected and turned by hand, when connected it drives in one direction only to operate the micro switch and shut down. If anyone can help please contact Mr Hemill can be reached at 11 Union Street, High Barnet, Herts, EN5 4HY, or tel: 01 440 3534.

### EX-ARMY ATU

Perhaps someone can help Mr Wegg, G0LPT, to get his ex-army atu working. It is an ATU No5 for WS 12, cal No ZA20351 made in 1955 by Pye Ltd. If anyone has any tips or hints on how to get this working please get in touch with Mr Wegg at 23 Kerdane, Dane Park Road, Hull, HU6 9EB.

### HQ MUSEUM

Does anyone have any vintage amateur radio equipment gathering dust and not wanted. John Crabbe, G0WFM, is helping to establish a small museum at RSGB HQ to illustrate Amateur Radio development through the decades and has collected some post WW2 items, but is very short of typical equipment from the WW1 period. The twenties and the thirties. Transmitters and receivers for the amateur bands are the items he would most like to obtain, but realises they are probably most valuable now and rather rare. However they would be well cared for and stored in a very safe environment, so if there is anyone who would like to loan or give any items to the Society, we would be very interested to know. Please write to John at HQ first before sending anything so he can arrange collection.

### OLD OSL CARDS REQUIRED

Bill Leyland, V3B2H, has written in requesting help in tracing some of his late father's OSL cards. He operated under the callsign G8MV during the late 1940s and, if anyone can help him to obtain some of these cards, please contact him as he would be delighted to hear from you. His address is Mr WV Leyland, 2130 Patricia Avenue, Port Coquitlam, BC Canada.

### CIRCUIT DIAGRAMS REQUIRED

Dave Greenhalgh, G0WN, is looking for a circuit diagram to renovate his ageing broadcast receiver. His Masters Voice type 1125. It should cover LW, MW and SW, but only works on MW. Either a diagram or morsel set which he could strip for spares would be very gratefully received. He is also looking for valves circa 1945 and the supplement to the 1945 RSGB Handbook. Please write to him at 8 Pleasant Road, Milton, Portsmouth, Hants, PO1 8JN, or tel: 0705 664966.

Geoff Southern requires a circuit diagram or workshop manual for a 'Sirius' 1 or 'Vicki' computer. Any costs will be reimbursed. He is reached at 27 Eldred Road, Liverpool, L16 8NZ, or tel: 051 722 3184.

lyn colls, G4GPJ needs circuit diagrams and any related information for her Eddystone S750 rcvr and Racial Electronic Frequency Counter Type 836, 32MHz. Any expenses would be paid for any photocopies, etc. Her address is Roughpiece Farm, Ashleystow, Wirksworth, Derby, DE4 4AG, (0629 623934).

### BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY AS

The above radio society is trying to find out some of its past history and has requested any past members to get in touch to try to fill in the various gaps in their records. The society callsigns are G3IUB and G3IUB. The person to contact is Mr K Webster, G7DWV, secretary of the RAD, Guild of Students, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TU.

### VK3 AMATEUR NEEDS HELP TO FIND BOOKS

On behalf of a VK3 amateur Jim Cockson, G4XWD is trying to obtain the following publications: International Radio Tube Encyclopedia 3rd Edition, 1958-59 or later by Babani published by Bernards Ltd, London; Secret Warfare by Pierre Lorin, Orbis Publishing; C11 Transistor Errors. If you can help would you please write to him at 40 Old New Road, Kidderminster, Worcs, DY11 0HW.

### MARCONI MARINE EQUIPMENT WANTED

Two ex-sea going Radio Officers are collecting old Marconi Marine ships w/f gear to recreate typical merchant ship radio rooms. Obtaining old receivers is not a problem, but the old transmitters 'Oceanspan' and 'Reliance', 'Vigilant' auto-alarm, 'Autoleak' and ancillary equipment seems to have totally disappeared. The search for old gear is given impetus because those are the last days of Morse code and the Radio Officer, with w/f coast radio stations going silent key. If you can help Bruce Morris, G4WXX (0654 71 0741), and Norman Barnes, G3YXK (0963 32389) please contact them direct. Both are OTHR.

### TOTSUKO INF REQUIRED

Mike Foden, G3UPA, would like to find a circuit diagram for the Totsuko TR2100M transceiver. Unfortunately the photocopy he has is totally unreadable in places and he would reimburse any expenses for a better copy. His telephone number is 0676 22767 (eve/weakends), 021 377 7000 (daytime).

### WIRELESS WORLD ARCHIVES REQUIRED

Mrs Sheila Bourner is trying to trace copies of articles written by her late father, Charles Albert Carpenter, G5FM and G5SH (experimental licence), who used to write for 'Wireless World' and the Nottingham Guardian under 'Wireless Whispers' circa 1920-36. Photocopies of these would be very welcome and all expenses would be paid. Please contact Mrs Bourner at Bella-Vista, 52 Comeytrove Lane, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 5HY.

Helplines is designed to help put people in touch with each other. If you have a problem, it's more likely there's someone out there who has the solution; if you are looking for an old colleague or amateur friend, there could be a reader who has some news of their whereabouts; if you have solved a particular problem, write and tell the rest of us. 'Helplines' is there to help you and to give you the opportunity of helping others. While we are marking your envelope 'Helplines' and we'll do what we can to get the message out.

Mr HP Staunton, G8SXL, 6.12.89  
 Mr SA Gibson, G0KID  
 Mr RE Barrow, G4DET  
 Mr AF Dennis, G3CNV, 17.10.89  
 Mr J Wale, G3CQK, 26.12.89  
 Mr A Brook, G3XYM, 14.1.90  
 Mr AH Catt, GM2BCH, 22.2.90  
 Mr WL McIntyre, GM3HMU, 21.2.90  
 Mr AEW Sheppard, G3JBS, 22.2.90  
 Mr D Crane, G0LRT, 12.2.90  
 Mr GO Edwards, G4BBB, 19.8.89  
 Mr CJ Tesse, G4DRB  
 Mr J Heesom, G4FHL, 11.4.89  
 Mr D Bell, G4ILU, 7.9.89  
 Mr M Mason, G4POZ  
 Mr WAW Kemp, G6ITG, 10.8.89  
 Mr S Ince, G6LC, aged 87 years  
 Mr W Park, G6PIW, 8.8.89  
 Mr FW Munslow, G8DYC, 15.10.89,  
 aged 75 years  
 Mr RLJ Winson, G8IWO  
 Mr B Wickham, G8WM, 30.10.89  
 Mr N Gregory, G3LCV, 27.10.89  
 Mr V Johnson, 9L1VJ, 11.9.89  
 Mr TM McKeown, G13UHL, 27.5.89  
 Mr SB Caldwell, G13YFY, 12.6.89  
 Mr JM Lowden, G18ML, 3.9.89  
 Mr W McGonigle, G13XGP  
 Capt JR Hunt, G3KQH  
 Mr WL Burt, G3TSB  
 Mr WH Martin, G3UWD, 3.2.89  
 Mr R Glidlow, G3ZFN, 26.5.89  
 Mr AE Ward, G3CAT, 10.9.89  
 Mr EA Lomax, G4DGR, 12.11.89  
 Mr GE Wilson, G4EAE, 10.9.89  
 Mr RJ Osborne, G4FJN  
 Mr D Penfold, G4IMR, 8.11.89  
 Mr WR Stevenson, G3JEQ  
 Mr T Park, G4KVK, 21.10.89  
 Mr J Southward, G4MWV, 19.8.89  
 Mr JE Fielden, G4NAH, 19.9.89  
 Mr SI Posen, G3NVD  
 Mr R Eastham, G4ORZ  
 Mr WH Jordan, G4THZ  
 Mr E Gray, G4TXII, 20.9.89  
 Mr B Bandy, G4UBA, 19.10.89  
 Mr IR Haberfield-Smith, G4ZCC,  
 12.10.89  
 Mr J Inness, G4AJP, 5.9.89  
 Mr P Tremaine, G8PB, 4.12.89, aged  
 72 years  
 Mr E Trebilcock, RS195  
 Mr DJG Bacon, RS30245  
 Mr PA Jones, RS46286  
 Mr C Bilsland, RS48746, 11.10.89  
 Mr JH Bailey (CPL), HS84697,  
 30.6.89  
 Mr JGE Camp, RS87823, 17.10.89  
 Mr GE Smythe, G3HZO  
 Mr FJ Bassett, G6HG  
 Mr W Docherty, G2BDQ  
 Mr GF Pell, G0PMV, 2.1.90  
 Mr AJ Jolly, GM4JML, 21.12.89  
 Mr PG Pennett, G3KME  
 Mr RF Warren, G3HWJ  
 Mr F Jeannmonod, G3JYT, 29.11.89  
 Mr EIR MacGregor, HS8809,  
 13.8.89  
 Mr U Smith, GW3UTI, 24.1.90  
 Mr H Allen, RS92345, 22.1.90  
 Mr B Woodward, G3DZJ  
 Mr M Butler, G7FJQ  
 Mr F Thompson, G5LII, aged 81  
 years  
 Mr R Patrick, G2BBX  
 Mr R Hammans, G2IG, 8.2.90  
 Mr MEW Hill, G4OFR, 2.2.90  
 Mr N Eddy, G4NEB, 6.1.90  
 Mr W Snodgrass, G13CVH, 20.12.89  
 Mr ARP Jenkins, G0FPA, 19.9.89  
 Mr DC Thomas, GWOJZO  
 Mr W Bell, GWOOKDM, 27.10.89  
 Mr K Burton, G1NNE, 26.10.89  
 Mr N Wolfenden, G1PRV, 19.9.89  
 Mr M Eckett, G1UIQ, 3.10.89  
 Mr EJ Butterfield, G1ZUX, 26.1.89  
 Mr H Heath, G2AOK, 5.12.89  
 Mr PG Tandy, G2DU, 3.10.89  
 Mr FW Fletcher, G2FUX, 26.1.89,  
 aged 81 years  
 Mr GD Davies, G2FXA, 30.10.89  
 Mr DE Beilby, G2HIK, 17.10.89  
 Mr A Kendrick, G2YX, 7.10.89  
 Mr MAE Brown, G3BZO  
 Mr LF Bentzies, GM3DDE  
 Mr DD Gey, GWS3DPO  
 Mr WL Middlemiss, G3EGG, 24.9.89  
 Mr A Owens, G3GXK  
 Mr WA Hawkins, G3JCV  
 Mr N Wright, GWA4KG1  
 Mr CH Hall, G3GUU

This month I'll continue with the job of catching up with the enormous amount of gear which has come onto the market recently.

#### LINEAR AMPLIFIERS

Icom have just released their new HF model IC4KL, which gives a massive 1,000 Watts out on all HF bands. Like its predecessor, the IC2KL, it is completely solid state, and is compatible with all recent Icom HF transceivers. Band switching is automatic and ALC is provided. An automatic ATU is built in, and there is much circuit protection. The price is a mere £5,500 inc. VAT! At least this does include the PSU.

From Ten Tec comes the Hercules 2, which again is all solid state, and gives 500W out on HF bands. Unusually it runs on 13V, and needs a massive 100A on peaks, so it can be used mobile, but I hate to think what it will do to an average battery! It costs £839 and there is an accessory PSU which gives up to 120A, thus powering a typical HF transceiver as well. This costs £660. The linear has an internal ALC but does not have any external feed. It is fully metered and also has a row of LEDs. The linear measures 5.25 x 4.5 x 12 inches, and the weight is 15 lb. The PSU measures 12.5 x 12.5 x 9.25 inches, and weighs 58 lb.

BNOS will shortly be introducing a new range of wideband linears covering the frequency ranges 1MHz to 1GHz; 0.1MHz to 500MHz, and 500MHz to 1,000MHz. All the new models are classed as having linear operation. They are designed for one milliwatt input, and give outputs of 1W, 5W or 10W. Prices vary from £600 for 1W as an RF module, to £3,500 for 10W in a case with built-in PSU.

Piper Communications are the importers for two new powerful linears for 144 and 432MHz, made for SSB Electronics by ON5FF. The V1300 for 144MHz uses a 3CX800/A7 triode which gives 1kW out for 40W drive. It has a self-contained PSU.

The similar 432MHz model is the U1000 giving 800W out for 40W input, and again using a 3CX800/A7 triode. The same company also released a 100W solid state linear for 1296MHz, having two temperature-controlled low-noise blowers, and requiring either 3 or 10W drive. It requires 25A at 13VDC, and includes an RF power meter, and RF sensed change-over, or can be controlled by PTT. This model can also power masthead preamps with 12VDC with sequential switching.

#### MULTIMODES FOR VHF AND UHF

The Icom range of transceivers for single band operation has gained a good reputation for having good facilities, and a welcome standard of performance. Icom (UK) Ltd now announce their IC 970 multimode base station with similar facilities, which includes both 144 and 432MHz, with the 1296 MHz band as an option. There is an optional general coverage RX covering 50 to 905MHz, having all the usual modes. A mains PSU is available, and modes include full duplex on two bands, and satellite auto tracking in either direction. Power outputs of 25 Watts are provided on 144 and 432MHz, and 10 Watts on 1296MHz.

Mast head preamps can be fed with 12VDC on Rx. The cost is £1,995 at the time of writing. A high power "H" version should be forthcoming, and this "E" version is the first Icom multiband VHF rig with multimode facilities. The rig has 99 memories on each band, with extra ones for general coverage RX. I have the feeling that this new rig will be a stand setter, as many previous Icom ones have been.

#### HF TRANSCEIVERS

SMC tell us that the only new rig from Yaesu for five months or so is the FT 1000 model at the top end of the range. Basically, a mains rig, the transceiver

gives some 200W output via its auto ATU. It has two separate VFOs and these allow two different frequencies on the same band to be monitored by mixing them together. An option includes separate RF input bandpass filters which will allow cross band mixing, and duplex operation with a separate antenna. Switchable IF filters of 250, 500, 2,000 and 2,400 Hz are provided as are two frequency and status digital displays, CW variable audio pitch, a dedicated packet mode position, and a general coverage RX with quite good AM filtering with sharp sidelobes. The rig has a direct-synthesis VFO, and seems an interesting new product.

#### HAND HELDS

Kenwood have announced two new models, the TH26e for 144MHz and the TH46e for 432MHz. They are very similar to the TH25e and TH45e, and have the same compatible accessories, the main differences being just cosmetic.

#### PREAMPLIFIERS AND ACTIVE ANTENNAS

Lowe Electronics are importing the new Dulch DX1 active antenna covering the range 50kHz to 50MHz. They are also marketing the German-made LMA 3000 low-noise pre-amp for masthead use covering the very wide range from 50MHz to 3GHz, at a cost of £112. Response is within 2dB over this range, and the average gain is 13dB, with a NF of 1.8dB at 1GHz, and 3.4dB at 3GHz. The claimed intercept point is astonishingly high at +22dBm and it can be powered with 12VDC up the coaxial cable using a DC duplexor type DCC12 or with a separate lead. The masthead box is fitted with "N" plugs, and has U bolts. A very similar model is also being sold by Doever Elektronika.

Angus McKenzie, G3OSS

## Some other RSGB publications . . .

### MICROWAVE HANDBOOK

The need for an authoritative yet accessible source book for the growing numbers of amateur microwave enthusiasts has never been greater. *Microwave Handbook* meets this need, and more. It contains a largely non-mathematical review of microwave theory and practice applicable to the amateur bands, including much reference information. It is also a timely collection of practical designs, hints and tips that have evolved from the advances recently made. All those who are active on the microwave bands will welcome this invaluable book.

### PRACTICAL WIRE ANTENNAS

Wire antennas offer one of the most cost-effective ways to put out a good signal on the HF bands, and this practical guide to their construction has something to interest every amateur on a budget. Theory has been kept to a minimum – instead, the author has shared his years of experience in this field.

### HF ANTENNAS FOR ALL LOCATIONS

This book explains the "why" as well as the "how" of hf antennas, and takes a critical look at existing designs in the light of latest developments.

### AMATEUR RADIO AWARDS (third edition)

This new edition of *Amateur Radio Awards* gives details of major radio amateur awards throughout the world. Each award is listed in an easy to understand format giving all the information on how to achieve the award. An innovation for this edition is the provision of checklists so that the amateur can keep a record of progress. This book is essential reading for the avid award hunter and the dx chaser alike.

**RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
**Lambda House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, Herts. EN6 3JE**

## CLUB NEWS

**DEADLINE** - Items for inclusion in the July 1990 issue must be sent to HQ marked "Club News - DIARY", to be received by 23 May latest. If news is received by the published deadline, it will appear in the listing. It is your responsibility to ensure that items are sent DIRECT to HQ in good time. News items should be sent in writing, preferably typed or written legibly, and be signed by the club secretary or the person responsible for publicity.

## AVON

- South Bristol ARC - 2, talk "How to Use an Oscilloscope"; 9, HF activity evening; 16, construction evening; 23, microwave activity evening; 30, video activity evening & committee meeting; Jun 6, film & slide "Bunting & Show" evening; 13, "Bulldays" contest with NBARC; 20, briefing for Longleat Rally.
- Thombury & DARC - 2, talk "Amateur Satellites" by Ted, G3JMY; 18, HF activity evening; Jun 6, foxhunting; 20, HF activity evening
- Wiston Super-Mare RS - 14, talk "Tracking the Bismarck by Radar" by Cliff Brent, G2BFI. There is no constructors night in May.

## BEDFORDSHIRE

- Dunstable Downs RC - "NEW SECRETARY" Mr. M. Spacey, 54 Dovehouse Hill, Luton, Beds. Tel: 0582 30664.
- Shefford & DARS - 3, talk "Looking Forward to Competitive Radio" by Dick, G3WRJ. Details 0767 80043.

## BERKSHIRE

- Maidenhead & DARC - 15, preparations for HF Field Day.
- Reading DARC - 10, talk "Amateur Satellites and Their Use by Radio Amateurs" by G1HBD; 24, HF NFD organisation chaired by G4THN; 24, HF NFD Organisation chaired by G4THN. Details 0734 744042.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

- Mylesbury Vale RS - 2, talk "Electrical Safety in the Shack" by Dick Bacon, G3WRL; 16, talk "Reception of Different Types of Weather Transmissions" by Martin Stubbs of the Met. Office. Details 0280 81 7496 or 0998 560026.
- Home Counties TV Group - 22, talk on "Path Loss". Details 0494 445972.

## CHESHIRE

- Stockport RS - 9, talk "Vertically Polarised Antennas" by Andy Patterson, GOHAL; 23, NFD preparation/night on the air. Details 061 439 3831 or 061 439 4285

## CLWYD

- Delyn RC - 8, preparation for monitoring of the Annual Delyn Walk across Halkyn Mountains; 13, monitoring of the Ninth Delyn Walk across the Halkyn Mountains; 22, talk "Abroad in the UK" by Derek Ringers, GW3UOO; Jun 5, talk about the work of the Animal Rescue Service; 19, The Chairman's Night. What has he got up his sleeve?

## CORNWALL

- Cornish RAC - 3, CRAC main meeting; 8, radio constructors workshop; 14, computer club; Jun 7, CRAC main meeting; 11, computer club; 12, radio & constructors workshop.
- Newquay ARC - 9, foxhunting Meet at St. Columb Roundabout at 7.15pm; 13, car boot sale & jumble sale at Treviglas School at 10.30am. Details 0637 871598.

## DERBYSHIRE

- Buxton RAS - meet second Tuesday each month at 8pm, Leewood Hotel, Buxton. Details 0292 25506.
- Derby & DARS - 2, junk sale; 9, talk "TVI and BCI - Its Cause and Cure" by Derek Brumbl; 16, technical topics; 23, visit to the new BBC Radio Derby studios; 30, night on the air; Jun 6, junk sale; 13, barbecue at Drum Hill, Little Eaton. Details 0332 569157.

## DEVON

- Exeter ARS - 14, talk "Microwaves" by Chuck, G0MDK; Jun 11, surplus sale.
- Sidmouth ARS - "NEW SECRETARY" R.E. Hamson, G8NFK, 43 Arrol Park, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 9HU. Tel: 0395 515349. Meets at the Norman Lockyer Observatory.

Salcombe Hill, Sidmouth on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm.

## DORSET

- South Dorset RS - 1, SDRS meeting. Beginners evening. All are welcome; 12, RSGB VHF Convention at Sandown Park.

## ESSEX

- Chelmsford ARS - 1, mini lectures by club members; Jun 5, constructors competition.
- Loughton & DARS - 4, night on the air - G4ONP on 6m from Loughton Hall; 18, Aymers Farm planning night; 25-27, Aymers Farm weekend; Jun 1, map reading; 15, top band DF hunt.

## FIFE

- Glenrothes & DARC - 2, talk "Test Gear - Signal Generators" by GM4ALA; 9, GM4ZNG video on Ingolstadt; 16, talk "Electronic Make-up of Computers" by GM3VZF.

## GREATER LONDON

- Acton, Brentford & Chiswick ARC - 15, talk "Short Wave Broadcast Listening" by G0LZB.
- Coulson ATS - 14, open evening with cheese & wine - demonstrations of radio etc; Jun 11, "Inflamous" G6YDG DF Hunt - Mike Rutt.
- Egham DARS - 14, auction evening; 31, talk "Cable Television" by John Rymer and Tony Small of the Windsor Cable TV Company.
- Edgware & DARS - 10, talk "Masts and Rigging" by G3SJE; 18, straight key evening; 24, constructors contest & NFD briefing; Jun 23, NFD Comes weekend.
- Southgate ARC - 10, talk "History of Valves" (Part 5) by Marconi Historian, Stan Wood; 24, diagnostic evening.
- Sutton & Cheam RS - 1, committee meeting; 12, VHF National Convention at Sandown Park; annual dinner at the Stoneleigh Inn, Stoneleigh; 18, Annual General Meeting; Jun 23 HF National Field Day
- Wimbledon & DARS - 11, construction contest; 25, talk "Wireless before Radio" by Steve, G8CYE; Jun 8, joint meeting at home with Sutton Library Computer Club. Details 01-330 2703.

## GREATER MANCHESTER

- Eccles & DARS - 1, talk "Going Sideside" by G6FEI; Jun 5, demonstration "SWR Measurements" by G8ZZF. Details 061 773 7899.
- Greater Manchester Police ARS - Meets at Tyldesley Police Station and is open to members of Greater Manchester Police Sports & Social Club and families and retired members of the Force. 20, special event station for Wigan Open Day. Details from Brian Bradshaw, G0LVJ (Sec) QTHR.
- South Manchester RC - 4, contest preparation night - club open for non contesters; 11, talk "Frequency Stable UHF Signal Source" by G3SYH; 18, Annual General Meeting.

## HAMPSHIRE

- Basingstoke ARC - 20, direction finding foxhunting OS map 185, 2 metre FM channel 517.
- Fareham & DARC - 9, talk "The Sinclair" by Andrew, G0AMS; 23, talk "Once Upon a Time" by Len, GGNZ; Jun 6, talk "Computer Programs for the Radio Amateur" by Andrew, G0AMS; 20, The Noise Bridge (Project) by Mick, G4ITF.
- Farnborough & DARS - 9, special open evening; 23, HF Field Day preview and planning; Jun 13, Silver Jubilee construction contest.
- Hornbeam & DARC - 3, visit to Copnor Fire Station; Jun 7, talk "Roll Your Own".
- Uphill (Three Counties ARC) - 9, talk "A Short History of Telegraphy" by Smudge Lundsgard; 23, junk sale; Jun 6, talk "OE2 Wireless Room" by Phil Williams; 20, club night for your own activities.

## HEREFORD & WORCESTER

- Bromsgrove ARS - 8, Annual General Meeting; 22, night on the air.
- Hereford ARS - 4, talk "Jandek Kits" by L. I. Pearson, G3ZOM; 18, NFD preparation and talk "Packet Radio" by Don, G3FKH; Jun 1, talk "ATUs/Matching" OR "Expedition to Stethom Island"; 23 National Field Day.
- Malvern Hills RAC - 8, talk by John Layton, G4AAL. Details 0564 573558.

►Redditch RC - 10, talk and demonstration "VHF Antennas" by Derek Bedford, G4ABS.

## HERTFORDSHIRE

- Cheshunt & DARC - 2, talk "Radio - The Latest Trends" by Peter Clarke of Arrow Electronics; 16, portable evening - Baas Hill Common, Broxbourne; 30, NFD briefing; Jun 2/3, NFD CW Field Day and BBQ Herts Young Mariners Base, Windmill Lane, Cheshunt; 13, TBA.
- Stevenage & DARS - 2, talk and demonstration "Slow Scan Television" by Tony, G1ZZH; 16, talk "Reading EPROMS" by Mo, G1ZOO; 23, committee meeting 81 Whitemore Road. Details 0438 724991.

- Worlton ARC - 22, talk "AKD Amateur Radio Equipment" by Mr. J. Armstrong. Details from Hon.Sec (G0BZS) or Publicity Officer (G3PMF).

- Woburn-Halfield ARC - 21, NFD preparation; Jun 4, Bar-B-Q

## HUMBERSIDE

- Hornsea ARC - 2, Fermy Club visit Hornsea; 9, committee meeting; 16, talk "Omega, Further Revelations" by Richard, G4YTV; 19, 20, 2M contest; 23, talk "Power Factor" by Rick, G1YVL; 30, HF Field Day preparation; Jun 23, HF Field Day; 6, HF Field Day inquest; 13, Survey of Old East Yorkshire Contest Sites. Details 0964 53333.

## KENT

- Bromley & DARC (formerly Biggin Hill ARC) - 15, AR quiz.

- Maidstone YMCA ARS - 1, Morse test dummy night; 4, CW tuition and RAE; 11, talk "Simple VHF Antennas to get you on the Air" by Keith, G4YTU; 12, Morse test in the Club Shack; 18, CW tuition and RAE; 25, audio tapes in Balcony Room, made and sent by George, VK5QG from Australia. Details 0622 878778

- South East Kent (YMCA) ARC - 9, 144MHz foxhunting; 23, Waldershaw Vintage Weekend (GB2WW) Planning; Jun 13, Dick's choice.

## LANCASHIRE

- Lancaster University ARS - 14, talk by G4UWG; Jun 11, talk "Satellites" by G8TJZ. Details 0524 642939

## LEICESTERSHIRE

- Leicester RS - 1, HF/VHF activity night; 8, committee meeting and HF/VHF activity night; 15, talk "Digital Circuits"; 22, HF NFD final arrangements; 29, HF/VHF night on the air.

## LINCOLNSHIRE

- Stamford & DARS - Meets at 7.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month at a new venue - The Flat, Marshall's Garage, St. Paul's Street, Stamford; 7, visit to HQ 101 Tactical Fighter Wing (USAF), RAF Alconbury. Details 0760 55001

## LOTHIAN

- Nithian RS - 9, talk "Home Construction" by Ali Lowe, GM4UZP; 23, DF hunt; Jun 13, Annual General Meeting

## MERSEYSIDE

- Wirral & DARC - 9, talk "Raynet, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service"; 23, project night - The BSX Packet Box; 30, practice DF hunt, from Heswall Bay-by-Bpm; Jun 13, talk "SMD Construction for Amateurs" by Bill Mooney, G3VZU.

## NORFOLK

- Norfolk ARC - 2, club visit to BBC Transmitter Site at Tacumshon; 9, first HF NFD briefing; 16, GB3NB Repeater AGM, 23, talk "Amateur Radio on a Shoestring" by Rev. George Dobbs, G3JRJ; 30, final HF NFD briefing; Jun 2/3 HF NFD at Cart Gap, Happisburgh; 6, "Real Radio" evening; 13, talk "Slow Scan TV" by Robert Scarfe, G4UK. Details 0508 78258.

- Yarmouth RC - 10, caravan maintenance party; 24, NFD planning session; Jun 2/3 NFD - YH Racecourse. Details YH 721173.

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

- Northampton RC - 10, constructor contest; 24, walking DF; Jun 14, mobile DF.

## NORTH YORKSHIRE

- Scarborough ARS - 14, talk "Antenna Tuning Units" by Kevin, G0EBL; 21, final preparations for the 1990 National Field Day Competition.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

- Mansfield ARS - 3, Annual General Meeting; 17, talk "Foxhunting equipment".
- Worksop ARS - 8, talk "Contests" by Bill, G3ZVG; 13, visit to Drayton Manor Park; 22, visit from BNFL Sellafield; Jun 5, foxhunting.

## SHROPSHIRE

- Salop ARS - 10, junk sale at the Beachamp; 24, second foxhunting.
- Telford & DARS - 2, club station on VHF; 9, quiz night; 16, HF NFD preparations. Details Telford 770922.

## SOMERSET

- Yeovil ARC - 10, talk "The Z Match ATU" by G3MMY. RAE course starts; 13, 6th QRP Convocation at the Preston Centre, Yeovil; 17, talk "Smith Chart - Analysis of the G5RV Antenna" by G3MMY; 24, talk "Analysis of a QRP Record" by G3MMY; Jun 7, talk "Product Delectors" by G3MMY. Details from David Bailey, G1MN, QTH.

## SOUTH GLAMORGAN

- Cardiff RSGB Group - 14, talk "Analys" by Ross Clare, GW3NWS; Jun 11, general discussion on members' technical problems.

## STAFFORDSHIRE

- Stallord & DARS - 8, night on the air; 15, talk "Semi-Conductors" by G3EHM; 22, construction evening; Jun 12, night on the air; 19, used and surplus equipment auction. Details 0785 662350.

## SUFFOLK

- Felixstowe DARS - 14, ESWR planning (Ferry Boat Inn); 27, East Suffolk Wireless Revival; Jun 11, visit to The Suffolk Ambulance Centre; 17, DF hunt & barbecue. Details 0473 642595 (daytime).

- Leiston ARC - 1, talk "Construction of Simple Microwave Sources" by Sam Jewell, G4DDK. Details 0728 830791.

## SURREY

- Dorking & DARS - 8, informal - Feltwell Arms; 20, visit to Singleton Open Air Museum; assembled entrance 11.00 - further details from John, G6ZCV; 22, talk "The RSGB and Future of Amateur Radio" by David Evans, G3OUF, Secretary and Chief Executive, RSGB - at Falkland Arms; Jun 12, D/F Trial, organisers Chris, G1PXH and Nick, G7DND. Assemble 7.30pm; start venue TBA.

- Guildford & DARS - 11, quiz night

- Reigate ATS - 15, talk "Planning Permission" by Roy Hill, G4HLH; Jun 19, surplus equipment sale.

## TAYSIDE

- Dundee ARC - 8, construction; 15, talk "The Linear Amplifier" by Findlay Baxter, GM3VEY; 22, construction; Jun 23, special event station - venue Wellgate Centre, Dundee.

## WARWICKSHIRE

- Mid Warwickshire ARS - 8, talk and demo "2m DF-ing Made Simple" by Malcolm, G0GLU; 22, talk "HF Antennas for You" by Neil, G3OAY; Jun 12, 2M DF foxhunting, 145.350 hertz FM, 7pm start TX.

- Rugby ATS - 8, 3rd annual construction competition; 15, vintage wireless night; 22, 144MHz direction finding competition round one, Jun 5, aerial rigging demonstration.

- Stratford upon Avon & DARS - 14, visit to Eddystone Radio, Jun 11. Community Radio (provisional).

## WEST MIDLANDS

- Coventry ARS - 4, 2M direction finding contest; 11, Dr Besi - CAIRO (provisional); 18 night in the air (folding); provisional; 25, night on the air and Morse tuition.

- Midland ARS - 15, rally debrief; Jun 19, treasure hunt.

- South Birmingham RS - 2, TBA; 5/6, contest, 432MHz to 24GHz, UHF/SHF, Shenlow Hill. Also: 432MHz trophy competition - if equipment is available; 13, Drayton Radio Rally; Jun 6, rig check night.

## WEST YORKSHIRE

- Halifax & DARS - 15, bits and pieces; Jun 19, antennas - members' discussion evening.

- Keighley ARS - 15, annual foxhunting; 29, talk "Air Traffic Comms & Navig Aids" by R. Evans.

# EVENTS DIARY

**9 Spenn Valley ARS - 3.** surplus equipment sale; 17, demonstration "Chassis Bashing" by Tim Clough, G4PHR; Jun 7, Ioxhun, 2H direction finding contest. Details 0274 875038.  
**10 Todmorden & DARS - 21.** talk "Magistrates Court" by Trevor Driver; June 4, bits and pieces.

## WILTSHIRE

**11 Ridgeway RG - 23.** Annual General Meeting, 7.30pm at North Wiltshire Centre for the Curriculum, Drove Road, Swindon.

## MOBILE RALLIES

This is a list of all rallies, exhibitions and conventions notified to HQ (as at press date). Items are given in detail for the next three months inclusive and in brief thereafter. Please send detailed information, including contact callsign and telephone numbers direct to HQ and marked 'Rally News - DIARY'.

## 6 MAY

**12th Anglo Scottish Rally - Tait Hall, Kilsyth.** Details from Bruce, GM4UB, DTHR.

## 7 MAY

**13 Mid Cheshire ARS Rally - Civic Hall, Winsford.** Doors open 11am [10.30 for disabled visitors]. Full catering and ample car parking. Details from David, G4XUV, tel: 0806-77787.

## 13 MAY

**14 Clayton Manor Mobile Rally - Clayton Manor Park, near Tonworth, Stalham.** Details from Norman, G8BHE, tel: 021 422 9787.

## 19 MAY

**20 Swindon Radio Rally - Oasis Leisure Centre, Ninth Street Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire.** Doors open 10am. Ample parking. Refreshments. Bring & Buy. Talk-in by Raynor S22. Admission £1 adults, 25p children. Sports facilities available including Lagoon Pool with wave machine. Details from Jim, tel: 0793 619014.

## 20 MAY

**21 Cambridge & DARC 5th Annual Rally and Radio Car Boot Sale at Coleridge Community College, Radegate Road, Cambridge.** Opens 10.30 [traders 8.30]. Talk-in on S22. Details from Brian, G4TRO, tel: 0223 353664.

**22 Dunsfold Downs RC 7th National AR Car Boot Sale - Stockwood Park, Luton.** This venue is near Junction 10 on the M1. Details from Clive, G4ENB, tel: 0582 27907.

**23 3rd Northern Mobile Rally - Flower Show Hall, The Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate.** Showground open 10am; doors open 10.30am. Talk-in on S22 M, Cafetaria Bar. Car parking end entry from Railway Road off the Wetherby to Harrogate road. Separate arrangements made for disabled visitors with parking and entry near to the Hall and close by the Crimple Valley Golf Club in Hookstone Wood Road. Details from Mike, GM0MKK, tel: 0423 564353/507653.

**24 Mid-Ulster ARC PARKANAUR Rally - Silverwood Hotel, Lurgan, Co. Armagh.** Open 12 noon. Entrance fee £1; usual traders stands. Bring & Buy. Bookstall, OSL Bureau. Talk-in S22 145 550. Proceeds of this rally go to the Stanley Eakins Memorial Fund at Parkanaur. Details from Jim Lappin, G11YGS, tel: 0762 851179.

## 27 MAY

**25 14th Annual East Suffolk Wireless Revival 1990 - Civil Service Sports Ground, Straight Road, Bucklesham, Ipswich.** Indoor Bring & Buy. Car Boot Sale. Bookstall, 50 MHz Demonstration sloton; Vintage Radio Display BYLARA, RAIBC, Scout Radio, RAYNET stands. Children's play area; Model flying display. Details from Paul Whiting, G4YOC, 77 Mollett Way, Felixstowe, Suffolk, tel: 0473 624559.

**26 Plymouth Radio and Electronics Fair - Plymstock School, Church Road, Plymouth.** Doors open 10am. Usual traders. RSGB Zonal Meeting. Morse Tests. Bring & Buy. Refreshments. Talk-in S22. Details from Jon Fisher, GM0VZ, tel: 0752 340946 evenings/weekends.

## 28 MAY

**27 Brocton Radio Rally - near Bawtry, Doncaster.** Doors open 11am, 10.30 for

disabled visitors. Talk-in S22. Booking forms; details 23 Florence Avenue Baby, Doncaster. Tel: 0302 857526.

## 3 JUNE

**3 British Telecom (S. Wales District) ARS 2nd Annual Radio Rally - BT Headquarters, Croydon, Cardiff, Bar, Restaurant, Bring & Buy etc. Bring & Buy stall display fee £1 per item. Entrance fee £1 per person and 50p for OAP and children under 14.** Talk-in on S22. Details from Marilyn Jenkins, GW7EYP, tel: 0222 379634 [office hours].

**4 Southend & DARS Mobile Rally at Rocheway Youth Centre, Rochford Essex.** Details from John Stone, G0DIE, tel: 0702 202216.

**5 Spalding & DARS Mobile Rally, Springfield Arena Spalding.** Details from T. Kettlewell, G4TWR, tel: 0775 722940

## 10 JUNE

**6 21st Evasion Castle Mobile Radio Rally, Evasion Castle Country Park near Derby.** Technical Bookstall. Bring & Buy. DTI Exhibit. Craft Marque. Aroma attractions throughout the day. Celoning. Talk-in on 144 & 432MHz. Car parking £1, coaches £2. Admission to rally activities is free. Details from John, G4PYZ on 0332 767984. Trade enquiries from Peter on 0332 700265 (evenings).

**7 Norek Raynet Annual Rally, Barford Village Hall, 5 miles west of Norwich.** NG9: TG 113078. Opens 10.30am. Local traders Bring & Buy. Car Boot Sale etc. Details from 0803 667189 [daytime] 0802 650865 (evenings).

**8 Royal Naval ARS 30th Annual Mobile Rally - HMS Mercury, Nr. Potters Bar, Herts.** Tradu, RSGB, RAIBC, BARTG and RAYNET stands. Crafts exhibition. Have-a-go archery. Radio controlled power boats, helicopters, cars and trains. County Sound Radio Mobile Rig. Refreshments. Morris Dancers. Many other attractions. Talk-in on 2m and 70cm. Details 0703 557469.

## 17 JUNE

**9 Denby Dale Rally - Salendine Nook School, 2 miles west of Huddersfield on A640.** Opens 11.00am [10.30 for disabled visitors]. Usual food stall. Ample parking. Traders. Talk-in on S22 and SU22. Details from G3SDY, tel: 0484 502905.

**10 Newbury & DARS Car Boot Sale - Recreation Field and Acland Village Hall, Cole Ash, Newbury, Berks.** Opens 10am. Free admission and car parking. Talk-in on S22. Refreshments and children's play area. Details from Mike, G3VDW, tel: 0635 43048.

## 24 JUNE

**11 City of Bristol Group 33rd Longleat Amateur Radio Rally, Longleat Park, Wiltshire.** Wiltshire. Details from Shaun O'Sullivan, G8VPG, tel: 0225 873098.

## 1 JULY

**12 Worcester & District Droitwich Strawberry Rally - High School, Droitwich.** Opens 11am. Usual trade stands. Bring & Buy. Family entertainment and Strawberry Fields (weather permitting). Free car park and free entrance. Details from Tony, G4DOP, tel: 0905 620507 or Derek, G4PBD, tel: 0905 641733.

**13 York Radio Rally - Tattersall Building at York Race Course.** Ground and First Floors will be used. First floor accessible by wide stairs, lift and escalator. Roller door will provide loading facilities for traders. Ample parking for traders and visitors. Talk-in on S22 and GB3CY on RB13. Details tel: 0904 625798.

## 14 JULY

**14 Cornish RAC Rally - Richard Lander School, Truro.** Doors open 10am [9.30 for disabled visitors]. Usual trade stands. Bring & Buy. Computer display/demo. Weather satellite demo. Refreshments. Free parking. Details from Roll Little, G7FKR, tel: 0872 72554.

## 22 JULY

**15 Burnham Beeches and Maidenhead & DARC McMichael Rally, The Haymill Centre, Burnham near Slough.** Doors open 10.30am [10.15 for disabled visitors]. Admission fee £1. Car boot sale admission £5 for car and driver. Usual traders. Royal Naval ARS. Datacomms Symposium. Packet radio demo. Refreshments. Bar. Details from Bob Heam, G8BTY, tel: 0944 29868.

## 29 JULY

**16 Rugby ATS Amateur Radio Car Boot Sale - Lodge Farm, Walscote, Nr. Lutterworth.**

Leicestershire. It is less than 2 miles east from junction 20 of the M1. Opens 10am. Entrance fee to non stall holders 50p per car. Prizes £5.00 for whole day. Talk-in G8BCS on S22. Details from Kevin, G8TWH, tel: 0283 44159 or David, G4DOW, tel: 0455 55259.

**17 Scarborough ARS Rally - The Spa, Scarborough.** Doors open 11 am. Many trade stands. Bring & Buy. Morse exam and demo from Morse Examiners. Refreshments and Bar. Details from Ian, G4UQP, tel: 0723 376847.

## 5 AUGUST

**18 Woburn Rally - Woburn.** Details from RSGB.

## 12 AUGUST

**19 Derby Mobile Rally - Lower Bemrose School, St Albans Road, Derby.** Details from Kevin Jones, G4FPY, 20 Pinecroft Court, Oakwood, Derby DE2 2LL. Tel: 0332 669157.

**20 Flight Reluctant Hamfest - Flight Refuelling Sports Grounds, Wimborne, Dorset.** Details from John, G0API, tel: 0202 691649 or Rob, GGDUN, tel: 0202 479038.

## 19 AUGUST

**21 Royal Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire House Rally.** Details from Terry, G4HZT, DTHR, tel: 0594 33334 (mid evenings).

**22 West Manchester RC Red Rose Summer Rally - Bolton Sports & Exhibition Centre, Silverwell Street, Bolton.** Details from Dave, G11OO, tel: 0204 241 04 (evenings only).

## 26 AUGUST

**23 Torbay ARS Mobile Rally - STC Social Club, Brixham Road, Paignton, Devon.** Details from G3HTX, OTHR.

## 2 SEPTEMBER

**24 Preston ARS 23rd Annual Rally - University of Lancaster.** Details from Godfrey, G3DWD, tel: 0772 53810.

**25 Telford Radio Rally & Exhibition - Telford Exhibition Centre, Telford, Shropshire.** Details from G3UKV, QTHR, tel: 0952 255416.

## 9 SEPTEMBER

**26 Wange ARS Annual Rally - The Lalndon Community Centre, Aston Road, Lalndon, Basildon, Essex.**

## 16 SEPTEMBER

**27 Bristol Radio Rally - Brunel's Great Train Sheds, Temple Meads Station, Bristol.** Details from David Fair, G4WUB, tel: 0272 839855.

**28 BARTG Rally - Surrey Hall, Sandown Park Race-course.** Details from Mr. Peter Nicol, G8VXY, 38 Mitton Ave, Rubery, Rednal, Birmingham B45 0JB. Tel: 021 453 2676.

## 30 SEPTEMBER

**29 Harlow AR & Electronics Mobile Rally - Harlow Sports Centre.** Details from Alf, G7FNY, tel: 0279 418392 [weekdays] or Miko, G7BNE, tel: 0279 725269 [weekends and weekends].

**30 Mid North Wakefield R.C. Rally - Outwood Grange School, Potto Lane, Outwood, Nr. Wakefield.** Details from Richard, G4GCX on 0532 622139.

## 7 OCTOBER

**31 Armagh & Dungannon DARC Annual Rally - Drumsill House Hotel, Moy Road, Armagh.** Details from T.E. Hall, G10MSJ, tel: 0861 523454.

**32 Blackwood AR Rally - Oakdale Community College, Blackwood, Gwent, NP2 0DT.** Details from B. Matthews, G4QWF.

**33 Great Lumley Radio Rally - Community Centre, Great Lumley, Nr. Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.** Details from Barry, G1JDP, tel: 091 388 5936.

**34 South Devon R.C. Sixth Annual Ham Radio Computer Exhibition and Rally - Hillhead Campsite on the Dartmouth Road in Brixham.** Details from 0803 5222116.

## 21 OCTOBER

**35 14th North Wales Radio Rally - Aberconwy Centre, Llandudno.** Details from E. Shipton, 34 Argoed, Chester Avenue, Kinmel Bay, Rhyl, Clwyd LL18 8AY, tel: Rhyl 336393.

## 11 NOVEMBER

**36 MARS Birmingham Mini Mobile Rally - Stockland Green Leisure Centre, Erdington, Birmingham.** Details from Norman, G8BHE, tel: 021 422 9787.

## 18 NOVEMBER

**37 West Manchester RC Winter Rally at Bolton Sports and Exhibition Centre, Bolton.** Details from Dave, G11OO, tel:

0204 241 04 (evenings only).

**38 Bridgend & DARC Annual Rally - Bridgend Recreational Centre.** Details from Den, GW3RVG, tel: 0656 860434 after 5pm.

## 27 JANUARY 1991

**39 University of Lancaster ARS & Central Lancs ARC.** The Lancaster Rally - Lancaster University. Details from Sue Griffin, G10HH, tel: 0524 64239 or Mike Sherlock, G4ZYH, tel: 0257 452287.

## OTHER EVENTS

### 6 MAY

**40 BATC Convention, Herstmonceux, Herstmonceux, East Sussex.** Details from Geoff Stone, G3FZL, tel: 01 699 6940. [See page 23].

### 12 MAY

**41 RSGB VHF Convention - Sandown Park Racetrack.** Details from Geoff Stone, G3FZL, tel: 01 699 6940. [See page 23].

### 13 MAY

**42 Yeovil ARC 6th DRP Convention - Preston Centre, Monts Dale, Yeovil.** Doors open at 10am by Editor of Practical Wireless, G3XFZ. Talks during the day by GM0XX, G3RHI, G3MYM & G3PCJ. GB3LDW will be on the air all day also for talk-in station. Traders as in previous years. Refreshments served from 9am. Further details D. Bailey, Hon.Sec., QTR or P. Burnidge, Chairman, tel: 0935 81 3054.

### 2 JUNE

**43 RAIBC (Northern Ireland Area).** First Belfast Amateur Radio Convention - Ormeau Park Recreational Centre, Ormeau Embankment, Belfast. Commencing 12.30. Usual attractions. Demonstrations and talks on the hobby. Demonstrations on Microwave Cookery. Crafts and First Aid by Red Cross. Talk-in on S22. All the proceeds to go to the Northern Ireland Area to buy equipment for Club members in Northern Ireland. Details from David Caldwell, G10HOW, tel: 0232 471370.

### 10 JUNE

**44 Mid Lanark ARS Annual Open Day.** Usual traders. Practical Radio will be in attendance. Talk-in on S22. Details from David Williams, GM1SSA, 32/32 Carlton Street, New Stevenson, Motherwell ML1 4JL. Tel: 0198 732403.

### 17 JUNE

**45 Eighth Annual Practical Wireless 144MHz DRP Contest.** 0900 - 1700 UTC. Transmitter output power will be limited to 3 watts as usual. Full rules will be published in due course in Practical Wireless. Contest adjudicator: Neil P. Taylor, G4HLX.

### 1 JULY

**46 Newport ARS 3rd Grand Surplus Equipment and Junk Sale, Brynglas Community Education Centre, Brynglas Road, Newport.** Details from Kevin, G7WSC, tel: 0633 252488 or Bob, GW4IED, tel: 0633 280958.

### 8 JULY

**47 RAIBC Romsey Picnic - the Fairground, Broadlands, Romsey.** All usual attractions. Free parking and entry. Mammoth junk sale. Grand Draw. Refreshments. Talk-in on S22. Details from John, G4COM on 0703 693017. [Jeffica hours].

### 15 JULY

**48 Sussex Amateur Radio and Computer Fair (formerly the Sussex Mobile Rally) - Brighton Racecourse.** Details from Ron Brox, G8VEH [OTHR], tel: 0903 783978 or 0273 415654 [Jeffica hours].

### 15 SEPTEMBER

**49 Scottish Convention - Cardonald College, Glasgow.** Details from GM3EDZ.

### 30 SEPTEMBER

**50 RSGB HF Convention.** Details from G3ZAY.

### 26/27 OCTOBER

**51 RAF ARS Annual General Meeting - RAF Cosford.** Further information from Warrant Officer M.J. Street; tel: Altringham 2393, extn 2472.

# the last...

## G-PLATES

With regard to 'G' single figure number plates. As we do not know the final decision from the DoT, may I suggest that if we are to be offered the chance to 'purchase' a callsign, it should also work in reverse, ie, if the radio amateur does not want his callsign released, his wish should be respected.

I can think of no worse situation than seeing your own callsign on someone else's vehicle and not being able to afford it for yourself!!

Does this mean that if I put my callsign on my rear window (not very advisable), I would be breaking the law?

I know this is a well rotted chestnut, but I am sure many, if not all, radio amateurs feel the same!

P A Caldwell, G4PAC

PS: Congratulations on the new look RadCom!

## RadCom, CALL BOOK, AND GB2RS

May I be permitted to bring to notice my observations, but not criticisms, and offer my suggestions to benefit readers:-

- (1) Provide more space for *Last Word* letters as opposed to the childish cartoons which are out of place, in my opinion, in *RadCom*.
- (2) Reinstate the publication of Special Event Stations each month (not appeared in last three issues), with original FULL details that was a feature over the past years. I try to work all such stations, but only certain important SES details are given out in *GB2RS News*, thus do not know to what to listen for. I feel reinstatement is of priority.
- (3) I propose the new Call Book is typeset in a more legible type, especially the callsign. The present printing is very much blurred, possibly by the litho offset plates becoming worn out by excessive over-printing from a worn such plate, also increasing use of 'particulars withheld', it could lead to an eventual book full of such: use postal code in lieu.
- (4) Repeat *GB2RS News* headlines at close as well as at beginning for those missing the start.

Many thanks - good well-printed *RadCom* - keep up the good work.

F D Webb, G2HBC

*What the readers think about points 1, 2 and 4? As for the RSGB Call Book, Mr Webb should be pleased with the 1990 edition just published, it contains more information, more clearly presented. - Ed*

## NORTH POLE 90 EXPEDITION

I would like to congratulate the Society on its involvement with the Multiple Sclerosis Society's Research Chair Appeal. I think it is the first time that an appeal for a non-amateur radio cause has ever been carried by *RadCom*, and I hope that all members will lend their support.

MS is a particularly pernicious disease. It is not generally appreciated that apart from its direct physical effects on the young adults which it typically chooses as its victims, it can have equally disastrous effects on personal relationships.

As the husband of a sufferer, I have been lucky to have a marriage strong enough to survive the stresses. I have also been able to make adjustments to our way of life which have minimised the disruption. But it has meant the loss of a few dreams. Members with longish memories may remember that one of the chief reasons for our decision to wind down the operations of Mulek Limited prior to its sale to Mike O'Donnell, and my move into freelance RF design and consultancy, was Jane's illness.

Other sufferers of my acquaintance have not been so lucky. The divorce rate for MS sufferers is very much higher than the mean.

So please do not sit there wallowing on top band, two metres or whatever, about what a good idea the expedition is and how brave the people taking part are. Send an SAE to Headquarters for a sponsorship form TODAY. You might not only help in finding a cure for the disease; you may also help in saving MS sufferers and their families a lot of unhappiness.

Chris Bartram, G4DGU

## HAPPY FAMILIES

Recently, I successfully completed the requirements for the 'Worked All Scottish Districts' Gold Award, namely, to make radio contact with each of the fifty-six designated districts of Scotland.

I have been a licensed amateur for only three years, and this was the first award I had ever worked for. I really did not expect the overwhelming encouragement and outstanding cooperation I received from the Scottish radio amateurs, as well as others in all parts of the UK. Once they learned of my district needs, some went mobile for me, while others contacted fellow hams in the needed districts and arranged for them to meet me on frequency. Still others offered helpful advice, or checked in with me whenever I was on the bands, to see how I was doing. I really felt like part of a big, happy family.

More importantly, I met a lot of fine folks on the air and made many new friends. I hope to visit Scotland with my family in the near future to thank some of them personally and explore for the first time ever, what must be a very friendly country.

Until then, to all you fine radio operators, I extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Harold Rosenberg, VE2HRP

## HELPLINES TRIUMPH!

I write to confirm that *Helplines* has triumphed again. You may recall I challenged your readers to help me. Well, inside a few hours of *RadCom* being delivered I had a phone call offering help and subsequent paperwork etc. Within a few days more paper and parts arrived to modify the equipment. A fantastic performance in the true amateur spirit.

I would publicly like to thank G0JJL, G1ERM and GB8HWS. Well done all.

James F Gray, GM3LRG

## PARTICULARS WITHHELD

I have read with amusement the letters concerning the listing of names and addresses after callsigns in the Call Book and have yet to see a comment from those who withhold their particulars, so perhaps you will publish my reasons.

Since taking up amateur radio again after retiring, I have been suffering from a touch of the wanderlust and I am still present in France. To give an address in the Call Book would mean QSL cards sent direct arriving at old addresses, as human nature assumes Call Books never go out of date. At the moment, for my UK QTH, I use my daughter's address. If an enthusiast knocked at the door I am afraid she would have no idea what he or she would be talking about. It is for these reasons I prefer not to publish my address until I settle down again.

I must say I do like the Call Book, it is full of useful information and well worth the money. By all means publish members' titles and qualifications, I still like to be able to tell the difference between a man and a woman. If space is needed in the listing why not use initials for details withheld, ie, PWALR. The space saved could be used to give more details of lady members.

D A Williams, F/G3RNQ

## SCHOOLS RADAR

Regarding the article on the Bardstown experiment (December 1989).

Until recently I was a pupil at King Edward's School (G8ZKE, G4SKE) in Birmingham which actually did have reasonable amateur radio facilities (a TS-520 and a 2m multi-mode). It also had about 5 licensees of which I was one. Unfortunately, this is where the interest stopped. It was hard work getting anyone interested outside of the live of us. The school offered a one-and-a-half-hour period on Friday afternoons in which aspects of amateur radio were discussed

Please note that the views expressed in 'Last Word' are not necessarily those of the RSGB.

We reserve the right to edit letters and regrettably we can no longer acknowledge them individually but will pass them on to the relevant

or practical work was attempted. We had great problems in attracting interest, although towards the end of my time there were four much younger boys who shared a slight interest. I cannot understand why the American school in your article had such a high success rate.

The only explanation I have is possibly that if younger generation amateurs are to be found, as a rule they must be under about 13 (although I became interested at 14) to be struck by the enthrallment of the hobby. Of course, in the UK to get a licence, you must be 14 which means that these intelligent 12 year olds who would be interested will have to wait for 2 years before becoming ORV.

Neil Derwent, G7CJF

*Hence the proposal for an hour-long limit for the Nutrie Licence - Ed*

## UNCLAIMED OSL CARDS

Since taking on the job of QSL Sub-Manager for the G0G series of callsigns just over 3 years ago, the pile of QSL cards which have not been claimed has steadily increased.

The purpose of putting this note in *RadCom* is to inform all G0G stations that if they want to collect their cards they must send me some SAEs as soon as possible. I am currently holding just over 6500 unclaimed cards, and this figure increases by a few hundred after every box of cards received from the main bureau.

If stations do not want to collect their cards, perhaps they could inform me as soon as possible, otherwise I will soon be forced to destroy them to conserve space.

Nigel P Roberts, G4KZZ  
(QSL Sub-Manager, G0G Series)

## THE WORST OF BOTH WORLDS

I am neither a CW operator nor an SSB operator, but I would like to enter the 10MHz SSB debate from the point of view of someone who is increasingly getting caught in the cross-fire of SSB activity and deliberate CW jamming on this band.

In the early sixties when SSB was regarded with suspicion by the majority of AM operators, the SSB enthusiasts tended to keep "out of the way" by sticking to the top end of the bands. The present wave of "antisocial" 10MHz SSB seems to be following the same line.

The victim of all this is the RTTY/AMTOR operator, who is currently allocated the top 10kHz in the band-plan. Even though AMTOR is quite good at getting through the splatter from SSB signals, it nevertheless finds the going quite tough when the SSB activity attracts deliberate interference from CW stations who would otherwise not have ventured that far up the band.

It seems to me that the case against SSB on this band is not a strong one, and if it is based on the premise that we must avoid interference to other services, then the argument gets weaker as the other services move out. Widespread use of SSB on this band seems inevitable. My plea is for the IARU to recognise this before it happens rather than after, and sort out a new bandplan before the RTTY sub-band gets completely wiped out.

Peter Martinez, G3PLX

**RF BYRNE /su**  
by G6MEN

...and if you'll look in this direction....



... word

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G-QRP Club Circuit Book	£6.54	£5.56
HF Antennas for All Locations	£7.24	£6.15
How to Pass the RAE	£6.47	£5.50
Microwave Handbook Vol. I	£23.29	£19.80
Morse Code for Radio Amateurs	£3.21	£2.73
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RSGB Sow-on Badges Code: F		
RSGB Banner Code: G		
RSGB Bear Code: H		
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RSGB 'Green Book' (details, structure, organisation and objectives of the Society)		
RSGB badge car sticker		
Standard callsign lapel badge (5 weeks delivery)		
De-luxo callsign lapel badge (5 weeks delivery)		
Standard lapel badge (RSGB emblem, pin fitting)		
Mini lapel badge (RSGB emblem, pin fitting)		
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Members' headed notepaper (50 sheets) octavo		
T & R Bulletin July 1986 souvenir copy		

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<i>continued on next column</i>		

Members visiting HQ are advised to telephone first to confirm availability of goods (0707) 59015

# RSGB PCB PRICE LIST

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**MEMBERS.** Use right hand price columns. It is essential that you quote your callsign or RS number so that you can be recognised as a member.

**PRICES.** These include postage, packing, and VAT (where applicable) and are subject to change without notice.

**AVAILABILITY.** Goods are available less postage and packing from RSGB Headquarters between 9.15am and 5.15pm Monday to Friday. However you are advised to confirm availability of goods by telephone before visiting Headquarters. We attempt to keep ample stocks of all our sales items, however as this list has to be prepared several weeks in advance we cannot guarantee that any item on this price list is immediately available.

**PAYMENT.** Payment may be made by post enclosing a cheque or postal order. These should be crossed and made payable to 'Radio Society of Great Britain'. If sending cash please use registered post. You may use your credit card for payment by post or by telephone. We accept RSGB Credit Card, Visa, Access (Mastercharge), American Express, and Diners Club cards. Our telephone number for orders is (0707) 59015 (24hrs). Our Giro account number is 533 5256.

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November 1989

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February/March 1989

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October/November 1988

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All prices include postage and packing.

Please note these PCBs are not available from RSGB HQ, but direct from Badger Boards,  
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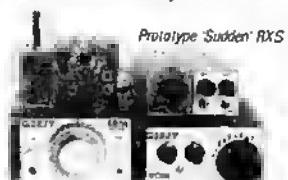
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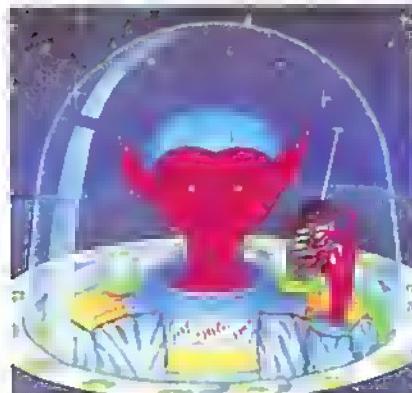
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